Cannock & Rugeley
CHRONICLE

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Crash sparks new calls over parking danger

The scene of the crash in Hednesford

A COUNCILLOR has reinforced calls for 'dangerous' parking to be tackled near to a sports ground following a crash.

The accident involved a motorcycle and car close to 5's Pavilion and Sports Ground in Hednesford.

There were no reported injuries, and the cause of the accident is unknown. However, town councillor Bryan Jones said the incident highlights the need for urgent action.

Last week, on its front page, the Chronicle reported on parking issues near the site, with Councillor Jones saying he feared the problem was 'only going to get worse'.

He said: "The PCSO is doing a great job but they don't have the same powers they used to."

The crash happened at 7.15pm on Monday at the junction of Bradbury Lane and Rowley Close.

Councillor Jones, who represents Hednesford & Rawnsley on Staffordshire County Council, said: "This is a serious incident, which has worried residents. I am calling for Cannock Chase District Council to take action to provide additional parking to help out when people are visiting the site."

Another option is to paint double yellow lines, Councillor Jones said.

Residents plan to launch a petition in a bid to combat the problem.

Parking issues are worst on Wednesdays and Sundays, Councillor Jones said. Photographs of the scene on Monday showed a motorcycle lying on its side in the road.

Police put a cordon in place while officers dealt with the incident.

Councillor Jones, a former police inspector, said he spoke to a police sergeant on the scene who told him the motorcyclist's injuries were not thought to be life-threatening.

He added: "There was a little bit of chaos at the scene because people wanted to get to the facility but the road was blocked."

TRIBUTES POUR IN FOR TIRELESS ETHEL

A TIRELESS fundraiser has been labelled 'Cannock's Florence Nightingale' by council bosses after she died aged 97. Ethel Powell worked for 33 years to secure millions of pounds in funding for medical care and was honoured with an MBE.

The late campaigner was also commended for being 'one of the hardest working people for the district'. Cannock Chase Council leader George Adamson said: "It is a very sad time for Cannock. In general, she was a tireless campaigner for the hospital all the way through.

"We gave her the honour of the freedom of the district – she was one of just three to receive that.

"I am sure she will be fondly remembered, as she campaigned so hard," Councillor Adamson added.

"I wish we had more people like Ethel. She was an example to everybody, and I wish we had hundreds more like her."

BY LUKE BARTLETT

Remember

Mrs Powell, who was made an MBE for her work for Cannock Chase League of Friends, announced her retirement in 2010 after 33 years of charity work in Staffordshire.

Calls have been made for a permanent tribute to the veteran charity worker, with councillors hoping to see a statue of her in Cannock.

Councillor Doris Grice said: "I remember Ethel, she was very good for Cannock Hospital.

"She was one of the hardest working people for the district.

"People will remember her work for as long as Cannock Hospital stands," she added.

"I think there ought to be a statue in the town for her – she was a lovely lady. I was very pleased to give her the freedom of the district and I shall always remember Ethel."

Cannock Chase Council's deputy leader Gordon Alcott also paid tribute to Mrs Powell – recalling her first project where she helped to raise the money to install hospital lifts.

Councillor Alcott said: "Ethel Powell was Cannock's Florence Nightingale.

"Me and Ethel have been friends for at least 51 years.

"I can remember Ethel coming to Cannock from Walsall, and it was at the Chase Hospital in Cannock where she set up her first project where she saw lifts installed.

"She mortgaged her own house to raise the money so that they could buy the lifts.

"From then on, she had her ladies and gents who worked with her, and she raised millions of pounds from one source or another.

"My thoughts are with the family – it is a sad loss.

"She was the first lady to be given the freedom of the district."

Ethel Powell with an Express & Star Local Hero Award at her home in Hatherton Road, Cannock

Receiving the Freedom of Cannock Chase award from Councillors Doris Grice and Gordon Alcott

Winners 'still in shock' after big night at Oscars

The plaque dedicated to Chris Overton

A 'BLUE PLAQUE' has been put up outside the English classroom where Oscar winner Chris Overton from Heath Hayes studied.

The gesture at Kingsmead School in Hednesford is just one of many tributes to the 28-year-old who has been basking in the afterglow of his success.

Chris and writer Rachel Shenton, from Stoke-on-Trent, woke up in LA with Oscars by their sides for their film The Silent Child – but it still has not sunk in yet.

He said: "We can't wait to see our friends and family and share it with them. We are still in shock. It's the most incredible thing."

Rachel said: "It feels surreal."

● Full report – Page 3

POLICE

Arson suspect is arrested in probe

A MAN has been arrested on suspicion of threatening to commit arson with intent to endanger life.

Staffordshire Police officers took the 54-year-old into custody following an incident in Blewitt Street, Cannock.

It happened at 12.15pm on Monday. A police cordon was put in place to close off the road.

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service was also in attendance.

INSIDE

SCHOOL ENJOYS A SPOT OF FUN

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Flood alerts as Beast from East retreats

Wimblebury Road, Cannock

RESIDENTS in Staffordshire and the Black Country have been told this week to expect some flooding as the big thaw kicked in following the freezing blizzards.

Sub-zero conditions and strong winds, caused by a weather system dubbed the 'Beast from the East', brought disruption to the region with schools closed and roads brought to a standstill.

But with temperatures having risen large swathes of snow have been melting, causing excess run-off water.

Households have been told to limit their water usage as freezing temperatures have caused pipes to burst and caused water pressure issues.

South Staffs Water and Severn Trent Water have asked customers to use water only when essential.

A spokesman for South Staffs Water said it has been experiencing 'very high levels' of demand for water due to bursts pipes and leaks. The spokesman said residents can make a 'real difference' by using water resourcefully.

A spokesman for the Environment Agency said: "We expect last week's snow and ice to thaw steadily, meaning rivers and streams are largely able to absorb the extra water, but we are monitoring conditions.

"Check if you're at risk of flooding from rivers and the sea and get the latest guidance by calling 0345 988 1188 or visiting www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk."

The region was hit with freezing conditions last week with icy winds whipping up snow drifts and temperatures dipping below freezing. However, the temperature has risen sharply.

South Staffs Water is advising home owners who find a leak on their property to call 0800 243352 or email www.watersafe.org.uk

Pub hit by vandals and arson 'could rise again'

CALLS have been made to restore a disused pub which has been the target of arsonists and vandals back to its former glory – ten years after it shut its doors.

The Rising Sun, on the A5, was boarded up in 2008 and its doors have not reopened since.

In October, it was was hit by a 'severe' blaze which destroyed the roof.

The derelict pub

It was the latest incident to threaten the fabric of the building, after firefighters were called to the once thriving pub following an arson attack in 2011, and metal thieves repeatedly targeted the building, leaving a £2,5000 trail of damage in April 2017.

There is believed to have been a pub on the site, in Chester Road, Brownhills, since 1769 and it was once one of the longest-established pubs in the region.

Councillor Ken Ferguson, who represents the Brownhills ward, would like to see the derelict pub brought back into commercial use. "It's the first thing people see when travelling from Cannock – that's the landmark for Walsall," he said.

"The pub used to be quite a popular pub, restaurant and hotel. It is a shame it's got into the state that it is in. If it can be brought back into commercial use that's viable, that would be the best option. It is an area that could be developed but it isn't the best site for the development of housing because of the nature of the highways nearby.

"It would be better if it was kept as a commercial property. There are various restaurants and pubs that make a living still from that sort of thing."

The building was owned by Marston's and was sold in 2009 to Eastern Leisure Ltd but a mooted makeover failed to materialise. It is not known who currently owns the building.

Councillor Ferguson said that given the prominent location of the site, it would be an ideal place to run a successful business.

Gerald, 80, donates his birthday cash

Gerald Williscroft donated his birthday money to Max Price-Hall

RUGELEY great-grandfather Gerald Williscroft celebrated his 80th birthday in January – and then could not think of anything that would make him happier than donating the £600 he received as gifts to five-year-old Max Price-Hall for a life-changing operation.

He was born at 34 weeks weighing 5lb 6oz, and the money will go towards the £40,000 he needs for an operation to ease the painful tightness in his legs as well as the subsequent physiotherapy.

Mr Williscroft's extended family gathered to celebrate his milestone birthday at the Rugeley Rose Theatre along with Max, to whom he is related.

He said: "I just turned around and said 'What can you get an eighty year old with all that money?'." Max's family and friends have started a Max's Mission to Move campaign and are just over halfway towards the target. His mother, Michelle Price, said: "It is overwhelming, very kind of him."

A fundraising disco will be held on Saturday at Rugeley Progressive Working Men's Club and on March 17 a Ladies Night is being held at Pear Tree Working Men's Club.

Judo club's windfall to help families get active

NORTON Canes Judo Club has enjoyed an £800 windfall thanks to a local councillor.

County councillor Dr Johnny McMahon presented the money to help buy additional judo mats and equipment to help the club run general fitness sessions.

The judo club is run by Les and Ann Butlin with other family members who provide judo sessions during the week.

The money will help enable the club run general fitness sessions on Monday evenings.

Councillor Mahon and Jane Reynolds, the Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Youth Services development worker for Chase and Lichfield districts, recently visited the club at the community centre and took part in a Monday evening circuit training session.

He said: "Like much of Cannock Chase, Norton Canes has a burden of adult and childhood obesity and adult diabetes that is higher than the average in our country. This is why I am delighted to support this venture."

Ms Reynolds said: "The club was keen to widen its opportunities to encourage more families to become active."

Each of the seven county councillors who represent the Cannock Chase area are allocated £7,500 to share out in community grants.

Arrested girl and man in hospital

A TEENAGE girl and a man who had been been missing for three days were taken to hospital after suffering injuries during an incident in a police vehicle.

The 45-year-old man and 17-year-old girl were found at Perth railway station on Monday, having been reported missing from Staffordshire on Friday.

They were arrested in connection with the incident in the vehicle, which led to both of them being taken to Ninewells Hospital in Dundee.

Police said they were due to appear at court in Perth once released from hospital. The case is also to be reported to Scotland's police watchdog.

A Staffordshire Police spokesman said: "As this is a Police Scotland investigation, it would not be appropriate for Staffordshire Police to make any further comment. However, we continue to liaise with our colleagues in Scotland."

Canal trust's quiz

TICKETS are on sale for an annual quiz night taking place this month. Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust's quiz will be held at Boley Park Community Centre on March 17. Tickets on 01543 671427 or 07968 168728 or email suzi_williams@hotmail.com

Bus driver is on right route for title victory

A CANNOCK man has been nominated for a bus driver of the year award.

John Cox, who has worked with Arriva for 13 years, has been shortlisted for the award after passengers across the country were asked to nominate their favourite bus driver.

It recognises drivers' dedication and willingness to go the extra mile over the course of the last 12 months and is part of Arriva's annual Made a Difference Awards.

John Cox – 'I feel honoured'

He said: "I feel very honoured and humbled to have been shortlisted for the driver of the year award.

"For me, I'm just doing the job that I love, so it's nice to know that it's been recognised by others."

Dee Williams, campaigns director for Arriva, said: "It is essential that our drivers know their hard work and dedication to their jobs doesn't go unnoticed, from both the public and Arriva.

"We are delighted there were so many nominations and would like to wish all of the drivers the best of luck in the next phase of the awards."

The results will be announced at a gala dinner in April.

Service will again hear health views

A SERVICE designed to champion people's health rights in Staffordshire has been reappointed.

Engaging Communities Staffordshire will continue working with organisations across the health, care and voluntary sectors, using the information gathered to shape services.

Councils are legally required to provide an independent Healthwatch service that will ensure people's views on health and care matters are heard and are used to improve services.

Councillor Alan White, deputy leader and cabinet member for health on Staffordshire County Council, said: "The appointment of ECS will allow continuity while we work with them and their network to shape the new Healthwatch offering."

Hear about beer

THE Men of Burntwood's monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 14, at 7.45pm at St Matthews Sports and Social Club will feature Mary Bodfish talking about 'Beer, Bets and Bull Baiting'. Call Vince on 01543 682448.

Showbiz life started early for Chris

Chris in his school days

CHRIS Overton was among stars such as Gary Oldman, Frances McDormand and Guillermo del Toro who were announced as winners for the 90th Academy Awards.

But the 28-year-old, who hit the ground running with his directorial debut for The Silent Child, comes from humble beginnings in Heath Hayes. His family still live in Cannock.

He studied at Gorsemoor Primary and then Kingsmead School in Hednesford where he was often in the spotlight for his talent. He played the Artful Dodger in Oliver Twist and Fat Sam in Bugsy Malone in school productions before he was offered a place at the famous Sylvia Young Theatre School in London when he was 12.

He narrowly missed out on a full scholarship to the prestigious drama school and got the help from sponsors to help pay tuition fees and accommodation fees. By the time he was 13 he appeared in the London Palladium musical Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.

He always had an interested in acting and as a child convinced his mother to buy him a video camera after lying to her saying he needed it for a media project.

His films focused around highlighting issues including bullying.

There was also a love for watching films and he used to try and sneak into the Electric Palace Picture House in Cannock to watch 12-plus films when he was 11. In 2003, he was in his first TV series BBC's The Big Read where he played Will Parry.

During his time on Hollyoaks, he acted alongside his future fiancee, Rachel Shenton, but they did not get to know each other until later on.

Cupcakes the magic ingredient for Oscar

By David Banner

OSCAR-WINNER Chris Overton has thanked his parents for helping make his film a reality by selling cupcakes to raise cash.

Director Chris won the award for best live action short film alongside writer and fiancee Rachel Shenton for The Silent Child.

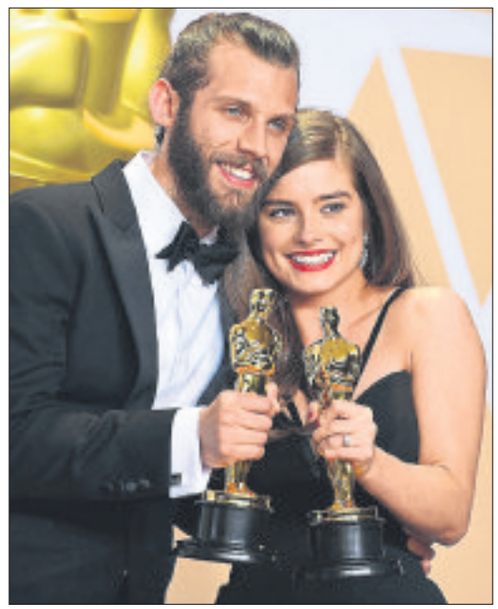
Watched by a global audience of 33 million, the couple, both of whom starred in Hollyoaks, thanked people back home in the Midlands for their support. This included Chris's step-father Andy and mother Lynne, who used to run A Take On Cake in Cannock and made £1,000 selling cakes for the production. The film, which cost £12,000 to make, was written by Rachel and is based on a true story about a four-year-old deaf girl's struggle growing up.

Promise

Shot in Staffordshire, it is now being shown in more than 600 cinemas in America. On collecting the award at the ceremony in Los Angeles on Sunday night, Chris, aged 28 and from Heath Hayes, said: "Thank you to our parents for making and selling cupcakes for helping us finish the film.

"Thanks everyone for backing the [online crowdfunder] Indiegogo campaign." Rachel, from Stoke, delivered her Oscar acceptance speech in sign language, fulfilling a promise to lead actress Maisie Sly, six. She said: "Our movie is about a deaf child being born into a world of silence.

"It's not exaggerated or sensationalised for the movie; this is happening, millions of children all over the world live in silence and face communication barriers and particularly access to education." Chris's brother Neil Overton, 33, woke up in Cannock on Monday to find out his brother had won the Oscar. He said: "I cannot believe it. It has not sunk in yet.



Chris Overton and Rachel Shenton with their Oscars

The couple with lead actress Maisie Sly, aged six

"It is amazing what he and Rachel have done, I am just lost for words.

"The build-up to it has been manic. I always believed Chris would win; I know what he is like. He works so hard. I had a good feeling about it."

Chris has directed several short films and appeared in Hollyoaks.

The couple needed help to produce the Oscar-winning film, turning to friends, family and businesses. Oatcakes and Milkshakes, in Stone and Stafford, raised £200 by donating £1 for each salted caramel monster shake sold. dDeaflinks Staffordshire donated money and allowed auditions to take place at its centre in Stoke. A crowdfunder raised more than £12,000.

Chris said: "My mum and dad made the cupcakes and Rachel's mother and her mum's partner Nigel sold them at their work. They make great cupcakes. We had no help. We crowdfunded this all by ourselves, and we had the support of so many people, but it was made on a shoestring."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Alert on 'keyless' thefts of vehicles

A NUMBER of luxury and high-performance cars have been stolen in Staffordshire without the need for keys, police have revealed.

Officers are warning people to take steps to protect their cars with keyless entry after thieves began targeting them in the county.

It is thought thieves are intercepting the RFID signals from car key fobs and using this to drive the luxury cars away.

Police say precautions that can be taken are devices like a steering wheel lock, putting a bollard on your driveway and placing your car keys in a RFID signal blocking pouch.

Plea after swans are found dead

THE RSPCA is urging dog walkers to keep their pets on a lead when near wildlife after two swans were found dead at Chasewater with injuries consistent with an attack by an animal.

The birds were discovered on Wednesday, February 21, both with bite marks on their body and necks.

RSPCA inspector Laura Baker said: "The injuries were consistent with being attacked by another animal.

"Legally, dog owners should have charge and control of their animals in a public place. We are asking dog owners to act responsibly to ensure sad incidents such as this are prevented."

Market fun days for youngsters

PENKRIDGE Market is to host family fun days to keep children entertained this month.

Starting on Saturday, children will be able to make Mother's Day cards, as well as paper flowers.

On the following Saturday, March 17, there will be craft activities to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

And on Saturday, March 24, weather permitting, there will be farm animals including sheep, lambs and a donkey from nearby Lower Drayton Farm visiting the market.

Call 01785 714221 for details.

Luxury pushchair grabbed from car

POLICE are appealing for information after an expensive pushchair was stolen from a parked car.

The black Stokke pushchair was stolen from the boot of the vehicle on the drive of a home in New Horse Road, Cheslyn Hay, overnight on Saturday.

Stokke pushchairs are considered top of the range and in some cases are worth more than £1,500. Anyone with any information should call 101 quoting serial number 323-04/03/2018.

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COUNTY NEWS

City firm ranked in workplace top 10

WOLVERHAMPTON-BASED Charter Court Financial Services has been ranked as one of the top 10 employers for the third year in a row in the Sunday Times 100 Best Companies to Work For list.

Charter Court, based at Broadlands, has grown since its launch in 2008 to employ more than 500 people.

Scores and ratings across a wide range of factors including leadership and fairness are based on the views of employees, and each year the questionnaires are revised and updated to reflect current concerns across UK workplaces to provide a detailed picture of working at a particular firm.

Unhappy staff fuel job queries boost

APPLICATION rates for office professional posts soared by 83.7 per cent across Birmingham in January according to independent jobs website CV-Library.

Lee Biggins, founder of CV-Library, said: "Candidates are storming the job market like never before. As such, it's important that businesses in Birmingham are offering the full package."

The survey of 1,200 workers revealed half (50.3 per cent) of professionals in Birmingham are unhappy in their current roles. This job dissatisfaction could be one of the driving factors behind the hike in application rates.

MP Margot to host apprentices fair

AN MP will host an apprenticeship fair alongside a jobcentre tomorrow, Friday.

Margot James will be at the Glasshouse College in Stourbridge as part of National Apprenticeship Week.

This event, between 5pm and 6.30pm, is part of the Stourbridge MP's Aspirations programme, which gives young people the chance to take part in workshops and networking fairs designed to help them realise their potential.

Fewer drivers are caught using phones

THE number of drivers issued with fixed penalty notices for using a hand held mobile phone at the wheel has dropped by more than 40 per cent.

A Freedom of Information request revealed the number of FPNs issued for the offence fell from 87,051 in 2016 to 51,787 last year. Studies suggest that the drop is due to road safety campaigns and the doubling of the fine and points.

Smokers caught dropping cigarette ends

A SMOKER has been fined twice in six weeks for dropping a cigarette end on the ground.

George Coldicott, of Walsall, was spotted by council officers discarding a cigarette butt in a Cannock Chase park last June and accepted a £75 fixed-penalty notice to avoid going to court. But six weeks later he was seen in a takeaway car park dropping another cigarette end. He pleaded guilty before Stafford magistrates and was fined £92 and ordered to pay costs and a surcharge of £125.

Meanwhile, a man who was seen smoking in a works van and discarding the cigarette ends through the vehicle's window has been fined hundreds of pounds.

Sean Townley, of Tamworth, was seen smoking three cigarettes while sitting in his works van outside McDonalds in Church Street, Cannock, each of which he dropped from his open window onto the car park before driving away. Townley was issued with two fixed-penalty notices but failed to pay them.

He did not enter a plea to Newcastle Magistrates Court and was ordered to pay fines of £440 and £220, having been found guilty in his absence. The court also added prosecution costs of £125 and a victim surcharge of £44.

Councillor John Preece, environment portfolio leader on Cannock Chase Council, said: "The council is committed to a cleaner, healthier and safer district.

"It is essential for members of the public to understand that even small items such as cigarette ends are litter.

"They look terrible on our streets and cost money to clear away."

A5 fly-tipper is fined over building waste

A FLY-TIPPER who dumped building rubbish on land off the A5 in Cannock must pay out £730 after being tracked down by investigators.

The building waste was found left overnight in Bridgtown in November 2016.

Documentation found in the waste linked it to a property in Stafford.

Following investigations, officers found that Brad Smith had advertised his waste disposal services on Facebook and had been paid to remove the waste and dispose of it correctly.

Smith, from Rugeley, appeared before Newcastle-under-Lyme magistrates where he pleaded guilty to a breach of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. As a result

Following the prosecution a member of the public who reported the fly-tipping is now in line for a £100 reward.

Councillor John Preece, environment portfolio leader on Cannock Chase Council, said: "I would urge everyone in the district to be the council's eyes and ears and to report any fly-tipping to us.

Help

"He was fined £250 and ordered to pay costs of £450 and a victim surcharge of £30.

"We are determined to stamp out these rogue operators, who blight our communities and our countryside by illegally dumping waste, but we do need the public's help.

"This case demonstrates that when we have the evidence, we will be rigorous in pursuing the offender and securing a conviction.

"We would also strongly recommend that members of the public check the credentials of anyone offering waste disposal services.

"A list of legitimate registered waste carriers is available on the Environment Agency's website. Making a note of the vehicle and its registration number as well as obtaining a receipt from the waste carrier is strongly recommended. This case was reported by a member of the public and we're delighted to be able to offer £100 reward as the evidence has led to a successful prosecution in relation to a fly tipping incident."

Anyone who witnesses fly-tipping is urged to report it to the council on 01543 462621.

Danielle Harrison and her son Eli – she has landed a job answering emergency calls for West Midlands Police

Danielle's plight is a factor in accolade

A WOMAN who became homeless with her baby helped win an award for the housing group that changed her life.

Danielle Harrison joined Housing Plus Group on stage at the Midlands Business Awards on Friday when it won the Corporate Commitment to the Community category.

Following a marriage breakdown, Ms Harrison and her new baby Eli found themselves homeless during Christmas 2016.

Then, after a short stay in emergency B&B accommodation, South Staffordshire Housing Association, which is part of the group, helped her move into a flat in Penkridge. And Danielle's life has kept improving – she has landed a job answering emergency calls for West Midlands Police.

"Through this award, the group has given me an opportunity to help highlight their life-changing work," said 27-year-old Danielle. "I don't know where I would be without their support."

Designing skills could bag school £500 prize

DO you attend a primary school in the Black Country or Staffordshire? Then your artistic talents are needed.

After 15 successful years our sister daily the Express & Star has again launched its popular Design an Ad competition.

Register now and your school could win £500.

Every school taking part will be teamed up with a local business who advertises in the Express & Star and pupils will be tasked with creating an original advertisement for their designated company.

Each company will pick its favourite design, which will then feature in an eight-page colour supplement in the paper.

From this shortlist, readers will vote for their favourite, and every pupil whose design is featured in the supplement will be invited to a special presentation ceremony at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre where they will be given a certificate and meet the other winners and their sponsors.

Every participating school will receive a £50 achievement award, plus the chance to win £500 if their advert is judged the winner.

Last year almost 1,000 children from across the region put crayon to paper and created some superb designs

Places are limited and time is running out so register now.

The deadline is Saturday. For details call 01902 319439.

To register go to https://www.expressandstar.com/news/education/2018/02/13/design-an-ad-register-your-school-for-the-chance-to-win-500/

Recruitment team wins three awards

A CANNOCK recruitment business has picked up three major awards.

Berry Recruitment's onsite team at the Gestamp factory in Wolverhampton Road, was presented with an Achievement of Budget prize to mark its success in 2017.

The team's Naomi Higgins also picked up an award for Apprentice of the Year for her success since joining the business, while Andrea Constable, who works onsite in Cannock as well as at another Gestamp site in the West Midlands, won Onsite Consultant for 2017.

The presentation ceremony in London was organised by Berry Recruitment Group for all its staff nationwide. MD Chris Chown said the Cannock team had performed exceptionally well throughout the year.

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Nine in 10 parents get first-choice secondary

NINE out of 10 parents have been allocated their first-choice secondary school in Staffordshire.

Of the 7,512 applications made for transfer at age 11, 92 per cent of parents have been allocated their first-preference school, with 96 per cent allocated one of their top three preferred schools.

This is despite increased demand for primary and secondary school places putting pressure on schools.

Nationally, last year just over 83 per cent were allocated their first choice, with just over 94 per cent getting one of their top three schools.

Parents were given until the end of October to apply for a secondary school. This time, nearly nine out of 10 chose to apply for a place online.

Since November, the council's admissions team has been working with schools and neighbouring authorities to ensure as many parents as possible receive a place at a preferred school.

County Councillor Philip White, cabinet support member for learning and skills on the county council, said: "In Staffordshire we have an excellent track record of achieving well above the national average for first preferences, and for top three preferences as a whole."

Parents can find out how they can help their children on the next step in their education at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/doyourhomework

Patients' safety a priority for chief

PATIENTS' safety is the main priority for Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust's new chief executive.

Richard Beeken, who started the role on Monday, joined from the University Hospitals of North West Midlands NHS Trust where he was chief operating officer, and has said he is 'committed' to Walsall.

Before that he has worked in Worcestershire, Dudley and Birmingham and a short period with NHS Improvement.

"The progress this trust has made since its 2015 CQC inspection has been excellent and I'm looking forward to getting out and about to meet our teams who are working hard to keep up the momentum of the improvements made so far," he said.

Rocester route

CHASE Ramblers' walk this Sunday is a 10-mile moderate route from Rocester, meeting as usual at Hednesford railway station car park for a 9am prompt departure. Call Barry on 01543 684254. New walkers welcome.

'Rapid progress' since new head joined

Kingsmead School in Hednesford

A SCHOOL in Hednesford has been praised for making 'rapid' progress since a new headteacher was appointed.

But staff were told improvements were still needed after Ofsted's first inspection at Kingsmead School since it became an academy in 2015.

Although the school has been rated as 'requires improvement' overall due to some concerns, including GCSE results and its sixth form, inspectors say it has many 'good' aspects.

Maria Mincher, who joined as head of school in September, said she was pleased with the progress made but there was more work to be done.

Inspectors, who visited the school in January, said the headteacher had brought 'energy and ambition to the school', adding: "It has improved rapidly since she took up her post.

"Together, with other leaders, she has established a more open culture and higher expectations among pupils and staff." The quality of teaching, learning and assessment, and sixth form and outcomes for pupils were deemed as requiring improvement.

The Ofsted report by lead inspector Mike Cladingbowl stated: "Teaching has not been consistently strong enough in recent years. As a result, not all pupils learn as quickly as they could. A new approach to improving teaching has been taken by the new leadership team, which involves better training, more-frequent checks and greater sharing of best practice."

Addressing GCSEs the report said: "Pupils' outcomes are improving but remain too low." Improvements are needed in the sixth form with Ofsted saying many A-level pupils 'do not achieve the grades that they should'.

99pc of residents want rail hub plans scrapped

IRATE residents have overwhelmingly called for plans to build a 700-acre freight depot to be scrapped.

Ninety nine per cent of respondents to a consultation organised by South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson said they were against the West Midlands Interchange, which could be built at Gailey.

It comes as Mr Williamson held talks with South Staffordshire Council bosses to share his concerns ahead of a planning application being submitted. Mr Williamson, who is also Defence Secretary, said the depot could be 'potentially devastating and damaging' for the area.

Some 1,400 people responded to his consultation after leaflets were posted around Hatherton, Four Ashes, Coven and Shareshill.

The rail and warehouse depot, put forward by Four Ashes Ltd, promises to generate £420 million for the local economy and create more than 8,500 jobs.

Expected

Residents have expressed fears about thousands of extra vehicles clogging up roads, particularly the A449. The loss of green belt land and damage to the distinct identity of surrounding villages have also been cited. A lorry would enter or leave the hub every 15 seconds once fully running, under the current plans.

Four Ashes has said it will take the views of locals into account before submitting a full application, which is expected within months. But after meeting with council officials Mr Williamson said the plans should be scrapped.

He said: "I had a really productive meeting with officers at South Staffordshire Council to discuss the potentially devastating and damaging proposals to build a rail freight interchange on green belt land.

"As I have said many times before, I believe that the development would create a substantial increase in noise, sound and air pollution, a massive increase in traffic, and consequently have a huge impact on residents in the surrounding villages. I have campaigned with local residents against this awful proposal and I will continue to do so until it is thrown out."

● HS2 latest – Page 14

Artwork chosen for railway bridge

Votes were cast online and at Hednesford Library with the overwhelming favourite emerging as Artwork 1

RESIDENTS have been casting their vote on which artwork should adorn Hednesford's railway bridge – and the results are in.

This is the artwork which took the most votes and will now be painted on the plain grey panels of the bridge in Market Street next to the town's station.

Over three months, votes were cast both online and at Hednesford Library with the overwhelming favourite emerging as Artwork 1.

Cannock artist Gez Whitehouse will now create this artwork, protected by anti-graffiti paint, over Easter to transform the grey bridge into 'something bright and vibrant'.

The project, which has been funded by Staffordshire County Council and supported by Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles, is being delivered by Hednesford in Partnership (HiP).

"We are delighted at the great support to choose a common piece of artwork as part of this bridging communities project and thank everyone who voted to enjoy the art created on the railway bridge for years to come," HiP chairman Robin Kingston said.

● Traders – Page 16

NEWS IN BRIEF

Four motorcycles are stolen in town

A SPATE of motorbike thefts in Cannock has seen four machines stolen within a week.

An orange Honda was stolen from Market Place on February 17 followed by two Yamahas, one grey and one black, on February 19 from Voyager Drive and Wolverhampton Road.

The final theft was on February 25 when a black and green Lexmoto was stolen from the Martindale trading estate.

Anyone with information has been asked to contact 101 quoting incidents 615, 627, 679 or 236.

Alternatively call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Five neighbours win lottery cash

FIVE neighbours in Rugeley are celebrating after their postcode earned them a £1,000 cash prize each in the People's Postcode Lottery.

The Tithebarn Road winners, who all signed up to play with the postcode WS15 1EQ, scooped the daily prize last Tuesday.

Lottery ambassador Judie McCourt was on hand to congratulate the winners. She said: "I'm absolutely over the moon for our winners in Rugeley. It's fantastic to see so many winners on one street and I hope they all enjoy spending their win!"

Church prepares for mini-market

THE latest mini-market at St Stephen's Church in Bideford Way, Cannock, takes place this Saturday from 9.30am to 11.15am.

There will be toys, books, gifts, jigsaws, clothes and cakes for sale, along with a cafe serving homemade cakes.

Everyone is welcome, and admission is free.

Organisers say visitors can also take time in the church for some quiet reflection.

Further details are available from Roger Baker on 01543 462283 or 07860 528571.

Opera Boys line up two county concerts

THE Opera Boys have included two Staffordshire dates on their current tour of the UK.

They will be at the Prince of Wales Theatre in Cannock on April 6 and the Lichfield Garrick Theatre on May 26.

Their vocal harmony show features a blend of music ranging from opera to pop, and everything in between, together with funny, engaging and lighthearted entertainment. For more details go to www.operaboys.com

IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Low marks for school that drops grading

A SCHOOL in London has decided that giving pupils tangible marks or grades for their work is too stressful, and can affect their mental health.

Instead, teachers at Putney High School will just give general comments about the standard of work. Headmistress Suzie Longstaff says: "Mental health and pupil wellbeing have to be central to everything we do."

Now mental health is a very serious issue, and one which is only belatedly starting to be given the recognition it deserves by the NHS. But I can't help but think that daft ideas such as this trivialise the subject, equating the real suffering of people with serious problems to kids feeling a bit upset by their school report.

It echoes the outcry from teachers when schools minister Nick Gibb recently suggested more tests for young children would be good for their long-term wellbeing. Not an easy argument, but doesn't he have a point? If kids are drilled in exam technique by the ages of seven or eight, surely it should be second nature by the time they reach their O-levels and A-levels? Perhaps what the teachers meant was preparing more kids for exams was not good for their own wellbeing.

Back at Putney High, staff say replacing tangible marks with comments will stop youngsters from competing with each other, and take away "bragging rights". From my memories of school, youngsters who bragged about exam marks got a very swift education in etiquette, but that's another matter.

The problem is, though that the real world is extremely competitive and at times brutal. If schools teach kids not to compete and not to fret about their exams, they are setting them up for a real shock when they leave school.

Because when they find themselves working for a living they will probably find their employers also engage in a bit of comment-based feedback. But probably not the type they will like to hear.

❐❐❐

THAT said, I think if I were at school today I would be feeling extremely stressed about World Book Day. Now getting youngsters into reading is an excellent idea, and anything that makes that more fun – particularly for hard-to-reach pupils – is to be supported wholeheartedly.

The problem is, what grown-ups consider fun is not necessarily what children do. And I'm not convinced that ordering kids to dress up as story-book characters is enjoyable. In fact, I can't help but think that for the average schoolkid there can be few things more humiliating than dressing as Charlie Bucket.

Cosying up to these six nations is really not for us

Diane Abbott – plenty of time to reflect on less ethical migration policies

Emma Chambers – when she suddenly found herself famous, it scared her

Captain Blackadder – as TV fans will know, Mboto Gorge was 'his battle'

Do we really want to go the way of EU?

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

POETRY among the isobars. I loved one weather forecaster's turn of phrase on a chilly morning this week as the Beast from the East arrived: "A pestering of snow showers." Dylan Thomas would have been proud of that.

WHILE we Brits have been pretending to know the difference between "a customs union" and "the customs union," the European Union has been busy on the other side of the continent, cosying up to six nations which hope to join the Union by 2025. They are: Macedonia, Albania, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo. This wild, unstable and religiously riven region used to be called the Powder Keg of Europe. As I have said right from the start of this Brexit business, it is not enough to look at where the UK is going. We should also be looking very carefully at where the European Union is going and ask, do we really want to go that way?

ONE obvious way to halt the sexual objectifying of women in drama is to get more female actors, directors and producers in the system. Or so you might think. In the Beeb's new thriller, Collateral, the star character is a woman, so are two executive producers, and above all so is the director, S J Clarkson. And yet the second episode included a gratuitous nude scene which added nothing to the plot and told us little about the character. It looked like nothing more than a skin-flick moment, designed to attract slavering male viewers. This was not feminism's proudest hour.

I HAD lunch with Emma Chambers back in 1995 just as fame found her. It was a BBC season launch in Birmingham. She had attended the same event the year before and no-one spoke to her or even recognised her. And then at the end of 1994 came the Vicar of Dibley and Alice Tinker became the nation's favourite dimwit. "I hate my face," she told me. "I was convinced I didn't look right at auditions . . . sometimes you do wish you're Kate Moss." When she suddenly found herself famous, it scared her. "I began to start having little panic attacks and finding myself hiding behind the Ambrosia tins in Waitrose. People would point and look. One lady came over and asked if I really was as stupid as I was in Dibley. I told her of course I was." Emma Chambers, who has died terribly early at 53, was delightful company and one of the most modest actors I've ever met.

MORE whimsy in Endeavour (ITV). After last week's episode mentioned the Crossroads Motel, this week's made a passing reference to Mboto Gorge, one of the battle honours of the fictitious South Oxfordshire Light Infantry. As Blackadder fans will know, Mboto Gorge was the battle in which Captain Blackadder's troops, armed with rifles and machine guns, massacred a tribe of pygmies armed with fruit.

MASSACRES are always good for gun sales. After every atrocity in the States, local people buy guns to protect themselves. Following the Florida school shootings, there's an even bigger bonanza for the firearms industry. Donald Trump's government is considering issuing guns to selected school teachers. That's another one million guns to be purchased. And if anyone thinks arming teachers is a good idea, let me relate the tale of an old soldier called Jim who did National Service in Cyprus and found himself caught up in a chase between military police and a wanted terrorist. An MP shoved a revolver into Jim's hands with the instructions: "If he comes out of that door, shoot him." Jim told me that within a few seconds he was so shaky, nauseous and sweaty-handed that he could barely hold the gun, let alone aim it. There is only one place where heroic loners kill the bad guy. The movies.

OUT for a brisk walk in the Beast from the East, I couldn't help noticing that not a single family group we encountered was using mobile phones. Instead, muffled against the Siberian blast, folk were chatting – just like families used to do. All the dazzling technology of tablets and smartphones is no use if you're wearing big thick mittens.

DIANE Abbott, a great believer in free movement of people, says her party will produce 'immigration policies that meet the test of being firmly located in Labour's values'. This is good news. But then Ms Abbott has had plenty of time to reflect on less ethical migration policies. Back in the 1970s she famously spent a romantic holiday with her boyfriend Jeremy Corbyn in communist East Germany. Why they chose that particular hell-hole (sorry, 'workers' paradise') for a tryst is anyone's guess but she will have seen first-hand a regime where border controls were based on fences and landmines and where anyone trying to flee was shot to death. Freedom of movement, comrades? Only if you can outrun the guard dogs.

TALKING POINT

Those two words that can speak volumes

Just two short words seem to be tripping up so many of us these days. Eight letters which could, as Diana Ross informed us, make this world a better place.

Thank you. That's all it takes. Thank you.

How many times have you held a door open or stepped aside to let someone past, only to be thanked with a muted grunt, nod or even nothing at all?

Yet it takes very little effort to simply thank someone for even the tiniest of gestures.

And it's not just a matter of face-to-face gratitude. When was the last time you wrote to express your appreciation of the service you have experienced in a restaurant, at a sporting event or while on holiday?

I know someone who goes to a summer music festival every year and afterwards without fail writes to the promoter to say how much they have enjoyed the entertainment, much of it performed for free.

Invariably the promoter replies to say that my friend's letter is the first non-business correspondence they have received that year and how much it means to the festival team and the musicians themselves.

Furthermore, some of the most heartfelt letters sent to newspapers are those, often handwritten, from people who have been in hospital and wish to thank the medical staff for their exemplary treatment.

So why do we find it so difficult to come out with those two simple words, particularly in this era of emails and social media?

Perhaps it's because after only a few years of the internet, we take far too much for granted, and instead find it far too easy to complain about, well, just about anything.

But going back to that door-holding scenario, I often imagine an exchange that would ensue if I was not thanked. It goes something like this:

Me - "You're welcome".

Other person - "I beg your pardon?".

Me - "Oh, I'm sorry, I thought you said 'Thank you'."

Other person - "I haven't got a clue what you're talking about".

Me - "Not to worry, have a good day".

Other person - "Weirdo!".

I ask you, is it worth it? Probably not but if we all kept those two short words to hand, maybe the world might be a less fraught place.

Will you give it a go? Thank you.

STEVE PARLETT

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Nunes case man jailed over guns and drugs

ONE of the men acquitted of the gangland murder of Kevin Nunes has been jailed for gun and drug offences.

Michael Osbourne, aged 38, of Barnett Close, Wolverhampton, has been sentenced to eight years after pleading guilty to conspiring to transfer or sell ammunition.

He was also found guilty of drug offences.

Osbourne was one of five people originally jailed for the murder of Kevin Nunes before Staffordshire Police's failings were uncovered and the men's convictions were subsequently quashed.

Osbourne

He was arrested last March after more than 50 rounds of ammunition were recovered by officers who swooped on a Wolverhampton pub car park after the movements of three men, including Osbourne, had been tracked by officers. Officers intercepted the exchange at the Bradmore Arms in Trysull Road, as the men attempted to escape, discarding the bag as they did so.

One tried to drive out of the car park through a disused exit but didn't anticipate the concrete bollard blocking his exit, and another was found in nearby bushes.

Four kilos of cocaine with a street value of £140,000. was also recovered

Rundeep Bagga, 33, of Fillongley Road, Meriden, pleaded guilty on the first day of his trial and David Dixon, 38, of Biart Place, Rugby, had already pleaded guilty to conspiring to transfer or sell ammunition.

They were sentenced at Birmingham Crown Court to three years and two-and-a-half years in jail respectively. Osbourne's co-defendants, Vitaljus Zasinas, 41, of no fixed address, and Timothy Joyce, 32, of Ash Road, Wednesbury, were sentenced to six years and seven-and-a-half years at the same hearing for conspiracy to supply.

Gym's life-saving effort

From left, Gymophobics Rugeley owner Joanna Rigby, joint manager Kerry Scott and instructor Nicola Waldron

A DEFIBRILLATOR has been installed in Rugeley, paid for by fundraising activities organised by staff and members of a gym.

The life-saving equipment outside Gymophobics will be available for the whole community to use in the event of a medical emergency.

More than £2,000 was raised in eight months thanks to charity curry nights, afternoon teas and a nearly new sale, as well as activities at the gym. And as the total beat the target, the gym donated £250 to Brereton and Ravenhill Parish Council to cover the insurance excess of a defibrillator that was vandalised in Brereton Park.

Gym owner Joanna Rigby said: "This was a fantastic effort by the whole team and a cause that our members got fully behind."

The new defibrillator is in Market Street near Iceland and Wilkinsons.

Planners to blame for farce

THE cause of the parking farce at 5's in Hednesford goes back to the planners who passed planning permission without the forethought or the necessary concern for modern life (Parking danger at sports ground, March 1).

A great sporting facility will attract lots of users.

I can imagine how the conversation went:

"How are the people to get there?" "By car." "Where will they park?" "Who cares? Let them sort it out and then when there's a problem, we'll pass it to the police."

The same scenario will be repeated shortly at Keys Park. Every new estate has parking issues. Who cares? Certainly not the planners!

COLIN WOODWARD
Hednesford

Warning over homes is scaremongering

READING the article "Peer to rally support for battle over green belt" has left me rather confused (Chronicle, February 22).

A card sent out by the Green Party to local residents in Rawnsley implied that there is a serious risk that 1,000 homes are being built in Rawnsley and 400 more in Cannock Wood (the article in the Chronicle said 450). There are no actual plans for this to happen as a planning application does not exist.

The areas are also within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), which has special protection. Anyone reading this paper can suggest areas to be taken out of greenbelt to be built on.

The council have a duty to consider everyone – even when it is almost impossible for the land to be built on and would be objected to anyway. The Greens are scaremongering for votes here, with the elections in May.

I'm genuinely disappointed in the Greens as, like most people, I see them as a friendly and honest party. This seems dishonest and I hope people see through it.

AARON BATE
Wimblebury

Financial aid plea for heart projects

THERE is a lot to be proud of since the British Heart Foundation (BHF) was founded in 1961. Seven in 10 people now survive a heart attack, the idea of heart transplants is now a reality, and the majority of babies born with congenital heart conditions now live on to adulthood.

Up and down the country, thousands of scientists are making it their mission to keep more families together.

But these projects will cease to exist without donations, as they aren't government funded. By donating to the BHF, you will be helping around 1,000 research projects in over 50 locations to unlock the key to beating heart disease for good. Please visit www.bhf.org.uk/thankyou

SIMON GILLESPIE
Chief executive, British Heart Foundation

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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Support on offer from RAF Fund

AS the RAF marks its centenary on April 1, I had to write and tell you about my mother Rose Davies who herself celebrated a centenary in 2016. Now older than the service she loyally served during the Second World War, my mother is a true inspiration in my eyes.

This Mother's Day I reflect on all she did. Now she is part of the RAF Family, a family which looks after its own. This is borne out by the incredible support she receives from the RAF Benevolent Fund.

If your mum or dad served or you know someone that did and they need a little support, I encourage you to reach out to the RAF Benevolent Fund. Visit www.rafbf.org to find out more.

JONATHAN DAVIES
Proud RAF son

Developers should go British with planting

WE'VE all noticed a dramatic increase in development in and around our towns over the past few years.

Developers are required to incorporate some areas of open and green space within their plans, which is great.

These areas very often include grass, trees and planting which make the developments more pleasant; also great. However, much of the planting used is non-native.

British plants support British wildlife much better than foreign ones. Planning authorities can use their power over developers very easily to specify that developers have to use only native species in their planting schemes.

This will maximise the benefit of the planned green space to wildlife and benefit British nurseries – a benefit to our economy too. Win win.

REV PAUL O'BREIN
Stafford

Artwork beats Picasso

ON your next visit to Lichfield, be sure to linger in the thoroughfare between M&S and Poundland, and view the paintings by children from the Donna Louise Hospice.

The quality of the art, far superior to any Picasso I have seen, is equalled by the poignant sentiments expressed by the children, many I suspect with terminal illness.

P CAINE
Burntwood

FOR MORE LETTERS TURN TO PAGE 15

Children's author gives write advice

The Ridwares WI

DAUGHTER of The Ridwares WI member Jean, Lorraine Hellier gave an interesting perspective on her 'writing journey'.

Having trained as a dental nurse and dental therapist, Lorraine started thinking about writing after returning from working in Guernsey.

She joined a writers' group and did a course at The Writing College at Exeter. After starting with short stories, Lorraine decided to concentrate on writing for children, penning books for seven-to-11-year-olds. Firstly, she writes her stories in longhand and then transfers to the computer. After feedback and proof-reading the finished book goes to the publishers.

She goes into schools and gives talks on creative writing to Key Stage Two. She said writing was not very lucrative once the publisher, agent and bookstore had taken their percentages!

The WI ladies and their spouses had enjoyed outings to Ashbourne and Tissington Hall and many villagers had joined the coach trip in January to the pantomime Cinderella at Birmingham Hippodrome.

The next community coffee morning will be on March 6, from 10.30am to noon at the village hall. Everyone welcome.

The next meeting of The Ridwares WI will be held on Tuesday, March 20, when Eric Newton will tell all about the Life and Times of a Busker.

Club snaps to it with play area fundraiser

SI Cannock & District

Bob Heighway, Snap, President Val Jones, Trish Mellor

CANNOCK Soroptimists held a very successful coffee morning in aid of Snap – Special Needs Adventure Playgound – in Pye Green Road.

It is the only facility of its kind in the area and families come from all over the county and beyond to use it.

Soroptimists have had an involvement with Snap for many years and were delighted to host this event for them.

Nearly 50 people went along to the coffee morning held at the home of Soroptimist Trish Mellor; members and their friends and families were incredibly generous by donating cakes, raffle prizes and items for a bring and buy stall. They were equally generous in buying tickets and bring and buy items and £510 was raised.

Snap chairman Bob Heighway came along to talk about the facilities offered by Snap to children and their families.

Snap still relies very heavily on donations and Bob was very grateful to Cannock Soroptimists and their guests for helping them.

Joanne's maid to entertain

Etching Hill WI

THE members' night meeting, organised by a group of the WI members, began with the glamorous Joanne Massey, known to many as the singer Lola Lamour, who provided an entertaining insight into her experiences working as a maid to the late Lord Lichfield at Shugborough Hall.

During her seven years' employment she served many royal and famous guests and said how privileged she felt to have worked for Lord Lichfield. The evening continued with refreshments of home-made cake and the members were challenged to several quizzes, including identifying celebrity photographs taken by Lord Lichfield.

The speaker on March 14 is Janis Lomas. Meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at Etching Hill Village Hall, East Butts Road, Etching Hill from 7.45pm.

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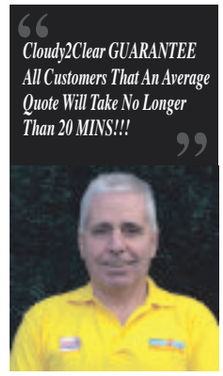

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Nosedive pilot wins appeal on dismissal

AN RAF pilot who caused his plane to fall into a 4,400ft nosedive after taking his camera into the cockpit has won an appeal against his dismissal.

Flt Lt Andrew Townshend had used his camera to take several photos, but put it down in an unsafe position where it disengaged the autopilot.

The plane, carrying nearly 200 passengers, plummeted 4,400ft over the Black Sea en route from RAF Brize Norton to Afghanistan. It left numerous personnel injured and cost the MoD millions of pounds to investigate the incident.

Townshend, of St James Close, Longdon, Rugeley, was convicted of negligent performance of duty at a court martial last March. He was given a suspended four-month jail term and was dismissed from the services.

But now, after a senior judge said Townshend had not been given sufficient reasons for his dismissal, it has been overturned at the Court of Appeal.

Lord Justice Holroyde said the courts martial had not explained why it was necessary for Townshend to be sacked.

By Richard Guttridge

The court heard that Townshend was a 49-year-old pilot with more than 5,000 hours' flight time when the incident happened in February 2014. Pilots were allowed to have cameras in their cockpits and to take photos, but Townshend had done so when he was alone without a co-pilot.

Afterwards, he put it down beside him, but it became dislodged when he adjusted his seat, connecting with a control stick and disengaging the autopilot.

Appealing against the dismissal on top of his suspended prison term, barrister John Price QC said it was too harsh.

Venue unveils new season of concerts

Maddy Prior will be appearing at the Guildhall in Lichfield with Giles Lewin and Hannah James

A CONCERT venue is tuning up for a month of music with acts covering everything from jazz to folk and blues.

The new season at the Guildhall in Lichfield starts on April 1 with the The Climax Blues Band. Tickets are £15, £13.50 for Friends of Lichfield Arts and £7.50 for under-16s.

A change of genre sees folk singer Maddy Prior appearing at the Guildhall with multi-instrumentalist Giles Lewin and singer and clog dancer Hannah James on April 21. Tickets are £18, £16.20 and £9 for under-16s.

Finally, on April 27, Miranda Sykes, the acclaimed singer and bassist with Show of Hands, will be performing songs from her new album Borrowed Places. Tickets are £12, £10.80 for Friends of Lichfield Arts and £6 for under 16s.

For further details and to book tickets, call 01543 262223, go to lichfieldarts.org.uk or drop in to the Lichfield Arts Box Office in Donegal House, Bore Street. Follow @lichfieldarts on Twitter, or search for the Guildhall on Facebook.

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Exhibition shows how war influenced fashion

AN exhibition capturing the fashion legacy of the First World War opens at the National Memorial Arboretum tomorrow (Friday).

Fashion and Freedom was co-commissioned by Manchester Art Gallery and the 14-18 NOW arts initiative as part of a programme of First World War centenary projects.

Visitors to the display, which features designs from Vivienne Westwood, Holly Fulton, Roksanda, J JS Lee, Emilia Wickstead and Sadie Williams, can learn about how changing social circumstances influenced the development of a new look where tight corsets and heavy skirts were replaced by more natural and fluid silhouettes.

During the First World War, more than one million women went to work for the first time, many of them taking jobs in vocations traditionally reserved for men.

Changing

Women contributed through working in munitions factories and on the buses, driving ambulances and even 'manning' the London Underground.

The exhibition explores the impact of the changing role of women in the workplace on fashion, as their new responsibilities provided new freedoms.

Sarah Oakden, head of marketing at the National Memorial Arboretum, said: "Fashion and Freedom offers the opportunity for visitors to explore social history and discover the ongoing influence that the First World War has had on clothing design.

"This exciting new exhibition has previously only been exhibited in the north of England, and we are delighted to be able to bring it to new audiences in the Midlands."

Jenny Waldman, director of 14-18 NOW, said: "When we set out to create Fashion and Freedom we wanted to look at the often-neglected impact that the First World War had on the lives of British women – the roles they took on, the freedom they gained, and the resulting shift in fashion.

"Our partners have made this an exciting and rewarding journey, and it is fantastic that visitors to the National Memorial Arboretum will have the opportunity to learn about this revolutionary period of social change."

Fashion and Freedom will be exhibited at the National Memorial Arboretum until November 30. Admission is included in the tickets for 'Landscapes of Life', a permanent exhibition at the Arboretum.

● With the planned completion of building works, a record number of events set to take place, and a host of new memorials being dedicated, the National Memorial Arboretum says it is gearing up for a 'monumental' year.

November will see the opening of Aspects, a stand-alone £8 million conference and events pavilion.

More than 250 events are already lined up, and the Arboretum predicts that this number will grow even further once Aspects opens fully.

A design by Holly Fulton that features in Fashion and Freedom

A Roksanda outfit in the exhibition

Pictures by Jez Tozer

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On top of that, the College's recent accreditation of Google Reference College Status means that the latest digital technology will be embedded as part of the learning experience.

Learners pictured with new Chief Executive Principal Claire Boliver and Chair of Governors Steve Burgin

Learners in the mechatronics lab at the AgriSTEM Academy on Rodbaston Campus

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Delight as £5m homes project is completed

From left, representatives from Cannock Chase Council, Keepmoat Homes and Homes England on the site

COUNCIL bosses are celebrating the completion of a housing redevelopment scheme in Chadsmoor.

The £5.6 million Moss Road project involved replacing an estate of 170 'tired' pre-reinforced concrete Reema flats with a mixture of 141 new homes.

Built in conjunction with Keepmoat Homes, the properties comprise 65 houses for Cannock Chase council to let as affordable homes and 76 to be sold on the open market. Councillor Frank Allen, portfolio leader for housing, said: "We are delighted to have delivered the first new council housing in over 25 years in Cannock, providing high-quality family homes.

"I'm pleased we were able to provide a mixture of housing on the site, including two new wheelchair-adapted properties which were very much in demand.

"The redevelopment has improved the area significantly. I can hardly believe how the estate used to look compared to now."

The new council houses were made possible through the authority's housing revenue account capital programme and funding from Homes England's affordable homes programme. The council successfully bid for a grant of more than £1m grant to fund the scheme.

Keepmoat will remain on the site to finish work on a second play area, which is due to be completed in May.

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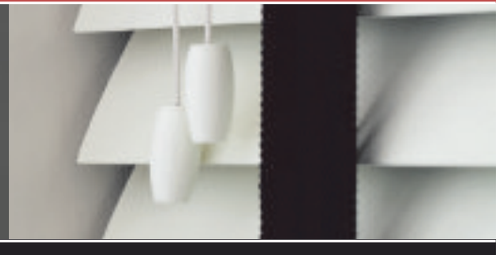

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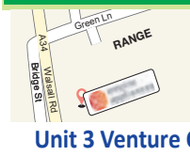

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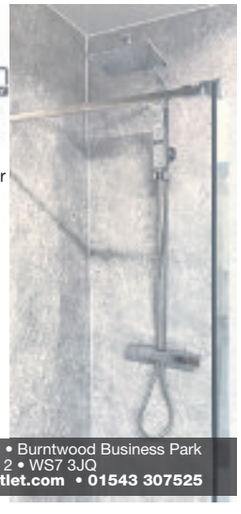

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'Significant disruption' warning over HS2 build

THE construction of HS2 could lead to 'significant disruption' on the West Midlands' road networks unless properly managed, politicians and transport leaders have warned.

The region's Resistance Partnership, which has been set up to oversee the 'massive operation' of building the line and stations, has vowed to 'carefully manage' the work in a bid to minimise upheaval along the route from London to the West Midlands.

Bosses said they want to see the region 'open for business' and have pledged to 'support growth' during the extended HS2 construction period. The section of the line is expected to open in 2026.

Potential

The partnership consists of Transport Minister Jesse Norman, West Midlands Mayor Andy Street, Highways England chief executive Jim O'Sullivan, HS2 chief executive Mark Thurston and representatives from Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) among others.

It met for the first time last week and warned that there was 'potential for significant disruption' on the motorway and road networks unless the scheme was 'carefully managed'.

Mr Norman said the group was keen to 'minimise disruption from construction works'.

He said: "HS2 will become the backbone of our national rail network, and improve vital connections between eight of the ten biggest cities in our country. It will deliver greater capacity for freight and faster journeys for passengers, boosting economic growth."

The Resistance Partnership: Jim O'Sullivan, Mark Thurston, Barbara King, Andy Street, Jesse Norman, Laura Shoaf, Anne Shaw and Martin Frobisher

Mr Street said: "HS2 will be worth billions to the West Midlands economy once complete but to build it is going to be a massive undertaking.

"We need to establish how we deal with traffic diversion routes, and how to keep them flowing, because they will have a critically important part to play during that construction phase.

"That is why it is so important that all the bodies involved come together to plan how best to cause the minimum disruption possible and keep the region moving."

Work on the line between London and Birmingham is expected to begin in early 2019, with some preparation works in 2018. The first trains are scheduled to run in 2026. There will be two new stations built in the city – Birmingham Curzon Street and Birmingham Interchange – which will be the largest new stations to be built in the West Midlands since Victorian times.

● A wildlife group is continuing its strong opposition to HS2.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust has warned that 43 local wildlife sites could be adversely affected by phase 2a of HS2, which would run for 34 miles across the county.

The trust plans to meet with HS2 bosses to discuss the issues in more detail, and will continue surveying habitats along the route to highlight missing information.

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Argument just does not add up

FRANCIS Ward's letter is statistically misleading, inaccurate and confused ("What we need is a proper referendum", February 22).

Yes, there are 65 million citizens in the UK but only 42 million have the right to vote.

If 13 million chose to exercise their democratic right not to vote it was either because they were apathetic or unable to make a decision. If Francis Ward wants another referendum how would he organise it differently?

JOHN FOLEY
Burntwood

A recent letter about the EU referendum prompted a number of responses from Chronicle readers. Here is a selection of them

NO recount required. The voting result was fantastic and correct, we don't need a second vote, we have won the important one by 1,269,501 votes and this number is improving steadily.

Why don't the Bemoaners accept this result and move forward with the country and make sure it is successful? Can we bring the EU exit forward? The sooner the better.

MR R EVANS
Burntwood

HELLO to you, Mr Ward sir. I guess maths are not your strong point.

My 17 million still beats your 16 million, no matter how you add it up. As for the 13 million who did not vote, well it is what it says on the tin. For whatever reason they did not vote, the importance of the vote was not a priority for them.

R G HICKENBOTTOM
Burntwood

RECORD numbers came out to vote and we decided to leave the EU.

That is democracy; the majority won. Would Remoaners want another referendum if they had won? I think not.

TREVOR PUGH
Cannock

I FEEL I have to write before I fall off my chair laughing at Francis J Ward's distorted method of using maths.

Doesn't he realise anybody under the age of 18 do not get a vote? Goodbye EU.

T MORRIS
Rugeley

Disgusted by so much violence on television

WHENEVER I scan through the channels on television at any time of the day or night I am concerned and disgusted by the amount of violence, and the way in which murder is constantly glorified.

The same applies to certain videos on sale to the public as advertised by the mass media.

It is no wonder that some people become indoctrinated by this constant and uncontrolled bombardment upon their senses.

It would appear that it is accepted as the norm.

No-one within the Government or society is doing anything to address this situation.

It's about time a board of control was set up to keep this violence in check.

If something isn't done, I fear that this will reflect badly on society and cause more problems for the public at large.

The added problem is, the sentences handed down to murderers is not a deterrent

Why dont you M.P.s,and the general public do something about it things can only get worse as time will surely tell

ROBERT WESTWORTH
Rugeley

Extra kindness in foul weather

MAY I sincerely thank the lady walking in the foul weather conditions along Belt Road, Hednesford, who saw me, an 86-year-old, shifting the drifted snow around my car.

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You don't have to go to church to be a Christian!

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Spots before their eyes for book day

The adverse weather conditions did not stop Chase Grammar School's 101 Dalmatians themed World Book Day celebrations. Children arrived at school in their spotty costumes – and even Cruella De Vil made an appearance. Activities included face painting, a bookmark decorating competition and a poetry competition. World Book Day aims to help children explore the pleasure of readingby providing them with the opportunity to have a book of their own. All schoolchildren receive a £1 book token as part of the celebrations. This week the school is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair giving parents and children the opportunity to buy some reading matter

Market traders wanted

ORGANISERS of the Hednesford Artisan Markets are inviting bookings for stalls from people looking to showcase their wares.

A monthly craft market will be held in the town on the third Saturday of every month, from April 21 until September and then for Christmas.

Councillor Paul Woodhead, vice-chair of Hednesford in Partnership, said: "During 2017 we established an event-based artisan market with the help and support of an external market operator. To build upon this positive start Hednesford in Partnership will take the lead in establishing our artisan craft market on a monthly basis. The aim is to support local crafters with an opportunity to sell their goods, art and creations.

"We are hoping to add to the atmosphere by inviting local performing artists to promote their own skills and shows. This local aspect will be supported by a limited number of external stall holders to complement the local offering. If you are a local crafter, know a local crafter or anyone who makes or sells their own made or quirky goods, artwork or items please spread the word to come along and have a stall to showcase your works."

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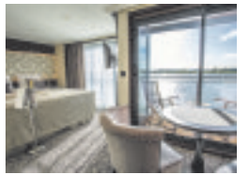

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Families to host meals for charity

CANNOCK Catholics are hosting 'family fast days' to help communities around the world to grow crops and receive better nutrition as part of this year's CAFOD Lent fundraising campaign.

Parishes in the area will be hosting Family Fast Days where communities enjoy a simple meal and donate the money saved to charity, helping to fund agricultural training, education, and clean water projects for pverty-hit communities.

All donations to CAFOD's Lent Appeal, up to £5 million, will be doubled by the Government until May 12.

CAFOD's representative for Cannock, Julia Hood, said: "The Lent appeal is such a great way of bringing people together and raising an incredible amount to help others." Donate to the appeal at cafod.org.uk/lent

Fraudster asks for rent on house they don't own

A FRAUDSTER attempted to dupe two people out of more than £1,000 by renting out a property they did not own.

A 'private listing' for the three-bedroom house in Bridgtown was posted on Facebook by a user based in Scotland.

The advertised property, in Laburnum Avenue, came with a rental price of £650 a month plus a deposit of £650.

But unbeknown to two people who responded to the advert on social media, the poster was not the owner.

The genuine owners, Caroline and Phil Powell, were advertising the property for rent through an estate agent, Bairstow Eves. The fraud was rumbled when one of the potential victims told a friend of Mrs Powell.

The offender had asked the person to pay the money upfront before he would post the keys first-class. Mrs Powell, aged 36, said: "It was worrying when we found out.

Shocked – owner Caroline Powell

"We worked hard to make the property presentable, then we find out someone has copied our pictures as part of a scam."

Mrs Powell, who purchased the property in 2002, has since found someone to rent the property.

Kerry Battersey, manager of the estate agent's Cannock office, said: "The seller told the person to send the money, and the keys would be posted down – it was worrying to hear.

"Going private over social media such as Facebook is a risk.

"It is important to view the property and meet the landlord before handing any money over."

Mrs Powell reported the crime to Action Fraud. But the incident is not being investigated – instead it will be noted for 'intelligence purposes'.

Mrs Powell said: "It annoys me it is not being looked out by a police force because it is a fraud, and it could happen again."

Concert tribute to conductor Ken

Self-taught composer Ken Gange at the piano

A CONCERT in tribute to a talented conductor and composer who made Cannock his home will be held in the town this weekend.

St Stephen's Singers will perform in memory of Ken Gange, who was born and brought up in Wales but taught for many years in Cannock where he lived until he died in 2016 aged 77. A self-taught composer, he became director of Staffordshire's Young Composers' Guild.

After taking early retirement he was able to concentrate on composing and playing piano and violin.

The concert, titled A Man and His Music, is on Saturday at Chadsmoor Methodist Church at 7.30pm and will feature the Cannock Light Orchestra and St Stephen's Singers with Ken's grandson, Rhys Whatty, travelling from South Wales to play the harp.

Tickets are £5, with the proceeds going to Cancer Research.

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Shops held to account on underage knife sales

RESPONSIBLE knife sales are vital for community safety, the Staffordshire councillor in charge of trading standards has said following a test purchase operation.

Underage volunteers were able to buy knives from six shops out of a total of 14 visited.

Staffordshire County Council's communities leader Councillor Gill Heath said: "Retailers of all sizes need to ensure their employee training policies are thorough and robust with regard to responsible knife sales. This issue is vitally important to local communities as well as their own business.

"It is illegal to sell a knife or similar product to anyone under 18 years of age, and best practice is for the retailer to adopt a recognised age verification system, often referred to as Challenge 21 or 25.

Concern

"Six out of 14 shops selling to underage volunteers is far too many, and our officers will now be working with them to ensure this does not happen again.

"Clearly, knife crime is a concern for everyone, though fortunately knife crime is low in Staffordshire."

Her comments followed a week-long operation in Stafford involving volunteers working with the trading standards team, which is supporting Staffordshire Police with their campaign to reduce knife crime.

Supt Ricky Fields, head of operational services, said: "Our recent Operation Sceptre saw the county's policing teams come together to crack down on those carrying knives and educating youngsters on the dangers.

"The work by Staffordshire County Council's trading standards team shines a welcome light on those retailers willing to ignore the law."

Arch is a first at boxing

An innocent fan passes through the scanner at the town hall

BEEFED-UP security measures were in place as boxing returned to Walsall Town Hall for the first time since the death of Reagan Asbury.

A airport-style knife arch scanner was set up to monitor all those who entered the venue for The Class of 2018 show. Organiser BCB head of boxing Errol Johnson said security scanners had already been used at two of its other shows in Bilston.

"We have used this venue for 18 years and done over 100 shows with no repercussions," he said.

"It is only good, it only brings an extra safety. Hopefully it helps in the long term."

Ten bells rang out at the start of the event on Saturday in memory of 19-year-old Reagan.

Tyrone Andrew, also 19, of Derby, appeared at Birmingham Crown Court for a preliminary hearing in January and was set a provisional trial date of June 18 after being charged with murder.

Reagan, from Pelsall, was allegedly attacked after violence broke out at a boxing event at the town hall on October 14.

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Tourism guide is in with a shout

From left, Lichfield town crier Ken Knowles, Drayton Manor director George Bryan, Lichfield tourism manager Lisa Clemson, Drayton Manor chairman Colin Bryan, Councillor Ian Pritchard and Tamworth tourism officer Stacy Birt

TOURISM providers and representatives assembled at Drayton Manor for the Lichfield & Tamworth Tourism Networking Event.

Organised by the district councils in Lichfield and Tamworth, the event saw the unveiling of the 2018 Visit Lichfield guide, which aims to boost visitor numbers by highlighting city and district attractions, events, tours, shops, eateries, visitor accommodation, wedding venues and more.

Councillor Ian Pritchard, cabinet member for economic growth, environment and development services at Lichfield District Council, said: "Our 2018 Visit Lichfield guide is a great resource to show off all that we have to offer visitors. From days out and places to visit, through to where to eat and stay, it has all you need to plan a brilliant trip.

"We have a wealth of events taking place throughout the year, including four drive-in movies at Beacon Park, the Bower, Fuse, Burntwood Wakes, the Lichfield Festival, Lichfield Food Festival, the Heritage Weekend and many more." The networking event also gave the council's Visit Lichfield team the opportunity to present the new What's On guide featuring local events from March to the end of August.

Allotments now open

THE completion of a community allotments and a new building on the site of a former stadium has been praised by a council leader.

George Adamson has welcomed the work at the old Cannock Stadium, which forms part of an overall £1.3 million revamp.

The allotments consist of 14 large plots, while the building has access to electricity and water.

It is also heated, meaning it could be used as a community room or classroom in the future.

The redevelopment of the former stadium site started in 2015. The remaining elements of phase one, which includes an adventure play area, illuminated path/cycle ways, car parking, CCTV and green gym equipment, is due to be finished by summer.

Cannock Chase Council leader Councillor Adamson said: "In June 2012 the council's cabinet welcomed the decision to remove the former stadium site from the list of land available for housing development and to develop the site for use as public open space and sport and leisure purposes.

"The community allotments and building will give the opportunity for us to work with community groups, voluntary groups and local schools.

"This investment encourages us all to get more active and enjoy our public open spaces and parks."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bar gearing up for celebrations

A CANNOCK bar is hosting what it describes as the biggest St Patrick's Day celebrations in the region.

Bar Sport starts he celebrations on Tuesday, with all four days of the Cheltenham Festival. Thursday features an Irish Breakfast and on March 17 the Premier Suite, above Bar Sport, hosts a St Patrick's Day Party.

Children to gather for Harmony show

YOUNGSTERS from Cannock take the stage for the annual Schools in Harmony production at the Prince of Wales Centre on March 21, from 7pm.

Organised in conjunction with Cannock Lions, the event has this year attracted pupils from Hazelslade and St Luke's primaries and Kingsmead and Norton Canes High Schools.

Images of county is subject of talk

NORTON Canes Historical Society will meeting on Tuesday at the library in Burntwood Road from 7 to 9pm.

The speaker for the evening is retired headteacher John Billingham and his talk will be Images of Staffordshire. Admission is free, and both members and non-members are welcome. Call 07443 892313 for details.

Pub award's new date

THE Cannock Chase branch of the Campaign for Real Ale has rescheduled a presentation of the pub of the year runner-up award to The Newhall Arms in High Green, Cannock. It will now take place on Saturday at 7.30pm.

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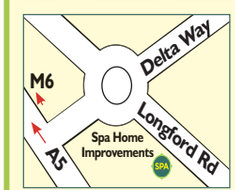

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Apprentice award for training company

Lynne Kearney, director of quality, with the award

BB Training Academy based in Burntwood has been presented with the Apprenticeship Programme of the Year Award at the Tes FE Awards ceremony in London.

The accolade is in recognition of the provider's Ofsted outstanding rated courses. It continues BB's run of success, as it was awarded an outstanding Ofsted grade across the board last March, and in January was named in the Centrica Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers.

The roots of the company stem from 2003 when Busy Bees, of Burntwood, began to offer apprenticeships to ensure a supply of high-quality staff for its 329 nurseries. A decade on, the programme's success led to the creation of its sister company, Busy Bees Training Academy.

New book offers support to 'forgotten mourners'

A BOOK to support bereaved children who have lost a parent or carer has been launched in Burntwood. Never Too Young to Grieve is aimed at people who help grieving children.

It offers guidance and information and activities specifically to support the 'forgotten mourner' generation, often left behind in the grieving process.

By Jamie Brassington

The book was produced following a partnership between Burntwood-based childcare provider Busy Bees and the charity Winston's Wish.

Marg Randles, co-founder and chief academic officer of Busy Bees Childcare, said: "I am sure that this book will support everyone and will have a positive impact on the lives of young children experiencing bereavement."

Busy Bees nurseries across the country raised £90,000 through a year of activities including fancy dress days and half marathons, and part of this fundraising went towards Winston's Wish producing the book.

The publication is aimed at nursery practitioners, parents, carers and anyone supporting children under the age of five experiencing bereavement. Each of Busy Bees 344 nurseries has a copy to guide the nursery practitioners.

The book draws on 25 years' experience of Winston's Wish supporting bereaved children, young people and their families.

Fergus Crow, CEO of Winston's Wish, said: "Busy Bees' support has been vital to the creation of the book and we thank them for their dedicated fundraising.

"The book provides powerful guidance to family members, practitioners and all carers supporting children under five during the difficult time after a loved one has died.

"With the right support at the right time bereaved children can lead full and flourishing lives."

Marg Randles and Keelie Leahy of Busy Bees with Susie Gallagher of Winston's Wish

Maxine in Cameron sales role

MAXINE Conway has been appointed to head up sales at Chasetown-based builder Cameron Homes.

Maxine, from Aldridge, has more than 25 years' experience in the industry.

Maxine Conway

She joins as sales and marketing director, a role created due the expansion of the business.

"I have been employed by several of the large Plc companies, progressing from an on-site sales adviser to the position of director over the years," said Maxine, who has also spent some time working as a sales trainer focussed on selling skills, IT systems and customer service.

Farm submits storage plan

PLANNING applications received by Lichfield District Council include:

Benbrook Farm, Stoneywell Lane, Longdon – erection of a storage building for hay and straw.

6 Birch Terrace, Burntwood – loft conversion to form bedroom and en suite.

24 Burntwood Road, Hammerwich – two-storey extension to extend kitchen and dining area and extend existing bedroom and bathroom.

Comments must be received by March 26.

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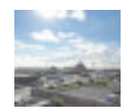

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Beautiful moments of humour and joy

It's been called 'a spellbinding production'. And the contemporary cultural phenomenon that is The Kite Runner will make its debut at Birmingham's REP from Tuesday to March 24.

The performances follow an outstanding West End for the show, which is based on Khaled Hosseini's international bestselling novel.

Audiences can look forward to a haunting tale of friendship which spans cultures and continents and follows one man's journey to confront his past and find redemption.

The action centres on Afghanistan, a divided country on the verge of war and in which two childhood friends are about to be torn apart.

The scene is set on a beautiful afternoon in Kabul when the skies are full of the excitement and joy of a kite-flying tournament. But neither Hassan nor Amir can foresee the terrible incident which will shatter their lives forever.

The production features an impressive cast, including Ravi Aujla, Jo Ben Ayed, Raj Ghatak, Amiera Darwish and Rez Kabir.

Rez plays Mary in the story of youth, transgression and redemption.

She believes audiences will go away having learned much.

"Younger audiences will take something from it, an older generation will pick up on something else, but the great appeal of this play is the beautiful moments of joy and humour that exist in life. Everyone will be able to connect."

The play is brought to life by music created by musical director and composer Jonathan Girling.

He say: "Putting on a play always involves collaboration. The most important person is the director, who puts the team together, makes all the final decisions, and is the driving force behind the production.

"The rest of the creative team is made up of the writer, the set-designer, lighting designer, composer, movement director, sound designer, fight director and that's just the tip of the iceberg. There's a huge team of people that have made The Kite Runner happen.

As the composer, the script and director are always my primary points of reference when thinking about the music. What does the script say to me (what sounds, tunes, emotions, textures or colours does it make me imagine?), and then what does the director want to do with the play?

"Once I've spent some time with the director and script, I'll start working on ideas, listing key scenes and moments in the drama. These initial ideas – normally written notes on traditional manuscript, or an instrument or two – are then introduced into the rehearsal room, and that's where the real magic starts to happen."

Jonathan says with the first version of the show, The Kite Runner had a great singer whose voice inspired him to think about writing songs to underpin some key emotional scenes. After he'd written the songs, and taught him the music, they rehearsed them into each scene to see how they worked. Tabla was also an important addition.

Flying high – it's based on the novel by Khaled Hosseini

"The next most important person for me in The Kite Runner is the near-omnipresent tabla player. The tabla – Indian drums you'll see at the front of the stage – are mentioned in the script, but the use of tabla music presented me with my biggest challenge. I hadn't researched Indian music since I was at university, so I enlisted the help of the Asian Music Network (Viram Jasani) and Emeritus Professor of Afghan Music & Ethonomusicology at Goldsmiths, John Baily.

"Viram helped me find a tabla player – Hanif Kahn – and John took me through the (very subtle!) differences between Afghan, Indian and Pakistan classical music.

"With their initial help and oversight, Hanif and I started on a five-week exploration of collaborative creativity that produced all of the tabla music in The Kite Runner. Hanif couldn't read western notation, and I couldn't understand how on earth he played such complex rhythms, so we initially just had to find a way of communicating (mostly in gestures, sounds and taps!).

The most important person is the director, who puts the team together

"In the end, some of the rhythms are original Jonathan – as in Assef's first appearance – and others are me honing and shaping traditional Indian rhythms into music cues useful for the drama, perfectly executed by Hanif on the stage."

As Jonathan and Hanif introduced more and more tabla music into the show, things started to take shape. But the one thing Jonathan never interfered with was Hanif's pre-show performance, in which he demonstrates his virtuosity.

The Kite Runner also features plenty of songs. Jonathan adds: "The songs themselves are sung live but off-stage, hidden from the audience. The singers can see the action, but we can't see them.

"I experimented with a number of ragas – Indian classical scales, akin to Western major and minor scales – to reinforce the authentic nature of The Kite Runner. In the end, the songs were based on Raag Malkauns, one of the oldest Indian ragas, each one a variation on the other (apart from the female 'wailing' song).

"The raga contains a haunting, contemplative character that lends itself well to the play."

● **For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.**

The Globe of Death

Daredevil biker stunts at contemporary circus show

After a sell-out West End run and nationwide tour, Cirque Berserk! the UK's biggest theatre-circus spectacular is coming back to the West Midlands.

After thrilling audiences at Birmingham Rep last year, the daring troupe will be at the New Alexandra Theatre from March 14 to 18 with evening and matinee shows.

Combining contemporary cirque-style artistry with adrenaline-fuelled stunt action, Cirque Berserk! is a spectacle including the famous motorcycle Globe of Death that sees four motorcyclists reaching speeds of over 60mph within the confines of a locked steel sphere.

Audiences can also experience exhilarating acts featuring more than 30 jugglers, acrobats, aerialists, dancers, drummers and daredevil stuntpeople.

For further details see www.atgtickets.com/shows/cirque-berserk/new-alexandra-theatre-birmingham online.

Fatherhood brings a reBrand for comic

Bad boy of comedy Russell Brand will return to Birmingham's Symphony Hall tonight (Thursday) with his new show, Re:Birth.

The show came about after Brand became a parent, which he says poses the question: "How can you be a dangerous, edgy, rebel with a tiny little daughter?"

Brand brought the show to Birmingham late last year – and it was evident that much had changed since his previous tours.

He admits he's changed considerably. He told one interviewer: "Yes, I'm less mad now. I was a needy person. I mean, that condition abides, but I manage it better now, I think."

Brand's show features his observations on Donald Trump, fatherhood and his frequently turbulent relationship with the media.

When he last visited Birmingham, he spoke at length about a disastrous interview with Jeremy Paxman and also showed that he has been willing to learn from his mistakes.

Brand says much of the change in his life came about when he met his wife, Laura Gallacher. He told one interviewer that it had changed his approach to the way he lives – and also to money.

"I'm lucky because I have been dirty poor and now I'm stinky rich – not that rich actually, I gave away a lot. But it doesn't make that much difference. I am in a position of privilege, there's no question about it. I am not trying to motivate anyone into trying to get their hands on a stack of cash, it's more like a motivation to recognise that you probably already have what you need and, while you can purchase pleasure with a big stack of cash, you cannot purchase happiness."

A razor-sharp show from WOS

You'll never trust a barber again – the macabre tale of Sweeney Todd (played by Richard Poynton, pictured) is coming to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday. One of Stephen Sondheim's most powerful scores, this musical concerns the infamous cut-throat barber who took bloody revenge against those who wronged him in 19th century London. Don't have a pie for dinner. Walsall Operatic Society are on stage at 7.30pm plus Saturday matinee.

Symphony orchestra play Bowie favourites

The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra present an orchestral tribute to The Music of David Bowie at the Symphony Hall tomorrow (Friday). Brent Havens will conduct the CBSO, joined by a rock band and West End star Tony Vincent, for new interpretations of such Bowie classics as Life on Mars, Heroes, Ashes to Ashes, Ziggy Stardust and Space Oddity. New York-based singer Tony Vincent was in the Broadway cast of Rent and went on to play the lead role of Galileo Figaro in Queen musical We Will Rock You in London, performing Bohemian Rhapsody with Queen during 2002's Party at the Palace. He went on to originate the role of St Jimmy in Green Day musical American Idiot. Before the concert, young musicians will be performing music inspired by Bowie as part of CBSO's Project Remix. See thsh.co.uk for details.

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SATURDAY'S TV MARCH 10

CHOICE

Janet Leigh

Hitchcock's Shower Scene: 78/52
(BBC2, 9pm)
Premiere. Documentary taking a look at the enduring legacy of the infamous and iconic shower scene in Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho - in which Janet Leigh's character Marion Crane is stabbed to death - a segment that arguably changed the course of world cinema. The sequence took a week to film and used up a quarter of the movie's entire production schedule, requiring 78 set-ups and 52 cuts to achieve.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Classic Mary Berry. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** MasterChef. (R) **2.15** MasterChef. (R) **3.15** Coast and Country Auctions. **4.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. France v England (Kick-off 4.45pm).
7.00 BBC News.
7.10 Regional Programme.
7.20 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present as famous faces take part in the general knowledge quiz in which they try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public. Contestants are Bob Harris, Chris Difford, Kerry Godliman, Miles Jupp, Jenny Eclair, Linda Robson, Debbie McGee and Angelos Epithemiou.
8.10 Casualty. Jac Naylor arrives in the ED and sets an ultimatum. CEO Serena Campbell wants the Rage in Resus blog to be shut down by the end of the day or its author – and Ethan – will be fired.
9.00 Troy: Fall of a City. Achilles' shock attack on Troy's ally Cilicia devastates the Trojans and puts the spotlight on Helen. Meanwhile, Andromache receives both good and bad news, and a bitter dispute erupts between Agamemnon and Achilles. The fourth episode of David Farr's Ancient Greek historical drama based on the Trojan War and the love affair between Paris and Helen, starring Louis Hunter, David Gyasi, Bella Dayne, Chloe Pirrie, Johnny Harris, Lemogang Tsipa, David Threlfall, Frances O'Connor and Jamie-Lee Money.
10.00 BBC News; Weather.; National Lottery Update.
10.20 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester United v Liverpool at Old Trafford and Chelsea v Crystal Palace at Stamford Bridge.
11.45 Film: A Few Best Men. (2011) An Englishman proposes to his Australian girlfriend, but the antics of his three best men turn the wedding into a disaster. Comedy, starring Xavier Samuel.
1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.10 The Wonder of Animals. (R) **6.40** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. (R) **7.10** The Pets Factor. **7.30** The Dengineers. **8.00** Absolute Genius: Monster Builds. **8.30** Beyond Bionic. **9.00** Robot Wars. (R) **10.00** Gorilla Family and Me. (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Cats v Dogs: Which Is Best? (R) **1.00 Film:** The Caine Mutiny. (1954) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.30** Me and My Dog: The Ultimate Contest. (R) **4.30** Final Score. **5.30** Flog It! (R)
6.00 Hugh's Wild West. Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall discovers how the people and animals of Dartmoor live alongside each other, visiting an ancient hill farm housing dozens of house martins and swallows.
7.00 Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby. Giles Coren and Monica Galetti visit Oman's Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar, the highest five-star hotel in the Middle East and a resort blending local tradition with modern tastes. (R)
8.00 David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. The naturalist explores the extremes of birth in the animal kingdom, explaining why the giant panda gives birth to the smallest babies of any existing mammal.
8.30 Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring and the platoon welcome the first American troops to Walmington-on-Sea, but Anglo-US relations become strained. Classic comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. (R)
9.00 Film: Hitchcock's Shower Scene: 78/52. (2017) Premiere. Documentary looking at the enduring legacy of the iconic shower scene in Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho, a segment that arguably changed the course of world cinema.
10.30 QI XL. Extended version of the quiz in which Deirdre O'Kane, Richard Osman and David Mitchell join Alan Davies to answer Sandi Toksvig's questions on the "Occupations and Offices" theme.
11.15 Film: Dial M for Murder. (1954) A tennis player's plan to arrange the death of his socialite wife goes wrong when she kills her would-be assassin. Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, with Ray Milland and Grace Kelly.
12.55 Film: The Lady Vanishes. (1938) **2.30** Civilisations. (R) **3.25** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Bagel and Becky Show. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Be Cool, Scooby-Doo! (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishfart. (R) **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** Dancing on Ice. (R) **1.15** ITV News; Weather. **1.25** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Ireland v Scotland (Kick-off 2.15pm). **4.30** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R)
6.00 ITV News; Weather.
6.15 Regional Programme; Weather.
6.30 New You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring a fire extinguisher that explodes in a builder's face and a dog that looks like Andrew Lloyd Webber.
7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. The entertainment variety show continues, with James Corden taking time out from his busy schedule across the Atlantic to join the Geordie duo as this week's star guest announcer. Plus, there is more spoof mystery as Ant and Dec once again put their OBEs to use as part of a task force of celebrity secret agents with honours. Stephen Mulhern is in Reading for the latest edition of In for a Penny, and in celebration of Andrew Lloyd Webber's upcoming 70th birthday, the End of the Show Show features some of his best-loved numbers in the studio.
8.30 The Voice UK. Tom Jones, Will.i.am, Olly Murs and Jennifer Hudson take their places on the spinning chairs once again, as the contest edges closer to its conclusion with the final battle round.
9.50 Piers Morgan's Life Stories. The host talks to comedian Jim Davidson about his life, from presenting The Generation Game and Big Break to alcohol addiction and domestic violence allegations. Last in the series.
10.40 ITV News; Weather.
11.05 Film: 2 Fast 2 Furious. (2003)
1.05 Jackpot247. **3.00** Babushka. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Winter Paralympics Live. **8.00** Winter Paralympics Breakfast. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.25** The Simpsons. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.25** Coast vs Country. (R) **3.25** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.30** Crufts Extra with Alan and Clare. **5.30** Channel 4 News.
6.00 Winter Paralympics Today. Lee McKenzie and Jonnie Peacock are at Snow Centre in Hemel Hempstead to present action from day two of the Games in PyeongChang, South Korea, including the men's and women's downhill skiiing, and Great Britain v Norway in wheelchair curling. With analysis from Charlotte Evans and Jade Etherington.
7.00 Crufts 2018. Clare Balding presents live coverage of the judging of the Vulnerable Breeds, Utility and Hound Groups and highlights of the Agility and Flyball competitions. Plus, a selection of reports involving rescue dogs, taking a look at the renovation of Manchester and Cheshire Dogs' Home following a fire and revealing why foreign rescue dog charities are growing in popularity. Plus, training tips with Carolyn Meneteith and advice on canine health from Noel Fitzpatrick.
9.00 Film: 45 Years. (2015) Premiere. A woman prepares to celebrate her 45th wedding anniversary, but one week before, her husband receives a letter revealing that the body of his previous partner has been found frozen in the Swiss Alps. The message exposes the cracks in their relationship. Drama, starring Charlotte Rampling, Tom Courtenay and Geraldine James.
10.50 First Dates. A woman keen to settle down and start a family has a date with an adventurer who has climbed the Matterhorn and swum oceans, while a 73-year-old has her first date for 44 years. (R)
11.55 The Inbetweeners. Will is unhappy about being forced to take a work experience job at a garage due to a mix-up that sees Neil joining a newspaper. (R)
12.30 Winter Paralympics Live. **5.00** Food Unwrapped. (R) **5.30** Streetmate. (R) **5.55** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.15** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **3.10** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **4.05** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **5.00** The Secret Life of Kittens. (R)
6.00 Cruising with Jane McDonald. Traversing the Baltic on board the Viking Sky, the presenter takes full advantage of the ship's amenities. Her first stop is Tallinn in Estonia, a medieval town with much ancient architecture. Next up is St Petersburg in Russia, where Jane heads to the Hermitage Museum, hoping to spot the cats that traditionally live in the basement. The third stop is Helsinki in Finland, where Jane meets a woman whose ambition is to kiss a brown bear. Finally, the ship pulls into the Swedish capital of Stockholm. (R)
7.00 Brunel's Britain: Master of Bridges. In a two-part series, Rob Bell explores the work of Victorian engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, exploring his complex personality as well as his prolific achievements. (R)
8.00 Brunel's Britain: King of the Sea. Rob Bell concludes his two-part documentary series by telling the story of Brunel's two masterpieces of ship design, the SS Great Britain and the SS Great Eastern. (R)
8.55 5 News Weekend.
9.00 Football on 5: The Championship. Colin Murray introduces highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship, including Aston Villa v Wolverhampton Wanderers and Cardiff City v Birmingham City.
10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush. Colin Murray introduces action from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including AFC Wimbledon v Oxford United, Blackburn Rovers v Blackpool and Coventry City v Barnet.
10.30 Jane McDonald & Friends. A mixture of some favourite songs, performed with the singer's own band and dancers. In this edition, Jane is accompanied by Alexander O'Neal and Shane Filan. (R)
11.25 Celebrity 5 Go Motorhoming. (R)
12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** Cowboy Builders. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** House Busters. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Lost Kingdoms of Central America **8.00** Masters of the Pacific Coast: The Tribes of the American Northwest **9.00** Below the Surface **10.30** Roy Orbison: One of the Lonely Ones **11.30** TOTP2: Wham! Special **12.00 Film:** Janis: Little Girl Blue (2015) **1.30** The Joy of Rachmaninoff **2.30** Masters of the Pacific Coast: The Tribes of the American Northwest **3.30** TOTP2: Wham! Special **4.00** Close
ITV2
11.25 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **1.00** Take Me Out: 10th Anniversary Special **2.00** Catchphrase Mother's Day Special **3.05 Film:** Hotel Transylvania (2012) **4.10** FYI Daily **4.15 Film:** Hotel Transylvania (2012) **4.55 Film:** Uncle Buck (1989) **5.55** FYI Daily **6.00 Film:** Uncle Buck (1989) **6.45 Film:** Jack the Giant Slayer (2013) **7.50** FYI Daily **7.55 Film:** Jack the Giant Slayer (2013) **9.00 Film:** The Expendables (2010) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05 Film:** The Expendables (2010) **11.05** Family Guy **12.05** American Dad! **12.55** Action Team **2.00** Ibiza Weekender **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
12.50 Agatha Christie's Marple **2.55 Film:** Columbo: The Murder of a Rock Star (1991) **4.55** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Lewis **1.05** The Good Karma Hospital **1.55** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping
ITV4
1.30 ITV Racing: Live from Sandown. Coverage from Sandown Park and Wolverhampton. **4.00 Film:** Battle of Britain (1969) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10 Film:** Battle of Britain (1969) **6.40** Football's Greatest: David Beckham **7.00** Storage Wars **7.55** The Celebrity Chase **9.00 Film:** The Chronicles of Riddick (2004) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10 Film:** The Chronicles of Riddick (2004) **11.20 Film:** This Is the End (2013) **12.20** FYI Daily **12.25 Film:** This Is the End (2013) **1.30** The Sweeney **2.25** The Protectors **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
11.05 Film: Stuart Little 2 (2002) **12.40** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **1.00** The Big Bang Theory **4.00** The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer **5.15** Extreme Cake Makers **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.30 Film:** Captain America: The First Avenger (2011) **9.00 Film:** Salt (2010) **11.05** Gogglebox **12.05** Naked Attraction **1.15** Tattoo Fixers **2.20** Gogglebox **3.15** Timeless **4.00** How I Met Your Mother **4.40** Don't Tell the Bride

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SUNDAY'S TV MARCH 11

CHOICE

Bruce Forsyth

Sir Bruce: A Celebration (BBC1, 9pm)

Tess Daly hosts a special tribute to the veteran entertainer, who died in August last year. Filmed at the London Palladium, a variety of famous faces join Brucie's family, friends, fellow entertainers and broadcasters to celebrate his life in a variety show featuring songs, dance numbers and on-stage homages by guest with whom he shared a special connection. Includes music by Dave Arch and his Strictly Come Dancing band and vocalists, along with the BBC Concert Orchestra.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** BBC News; Weather. **12.30** MasterChef. (R) **1.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **1.55** Songs of Praise. **2.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Wales v Italy (Kick-off 3.00pm). **5.05** Earth's Natural Wonders. (R)

6.05 BBC News.

6.20 Regional Programme.

6.30 Countryfile. The team heads to the Scottish Lowlands to shed light on rural issues in the Lothians and the Borders. Steve Brown heads out on the trail of the elusive mud snail, which plays a crucial role in the region's ecosystem. Anita Rani cycles along the sands of the East Lothian coast on a "fat bike', which has larger than normal tyres to avoid disturbing natural habitats, and Matt Baker reveals how the people of St Abbs fought against the odds to keep their lifeboat service running. Plus, Adam Henson visits Edinburgh's Agricultural College, where researchers are working to find a way to fix the methane problem caused by the estimated 10 million cattle in the UK.

7.30 Hold the Sunset. Edith confronts a ghost from the past when the house is broken into at night, while tensions rise between Roger and Wendy. Guest starring James Cosmo (Game of Thrones).

8.00 Call the Midwife. As the nurses and midwives prepares for Sister Monica Joan's birthday, they face an influx of new patients when a nearby maternity home suddenly closes. Last in the series.

9.00 Sir Bruce: A Celebration. Tess Daly pays tribute to the veteran entertainer, who died in August last year, with a special variety programme celebrating his life filmed at the London Palladium.

10.05 BBC News.

10.25 Regional Programme.

10.35 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman presents highlights of the day's two Premier League matches – Arsenal v Watford at the Emirates Stadium and Bournemouth v Tottenham Hotspur at the Vitality Stadium.

11.35 Film: Fright Night. (2011)

1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.10 Coast. (R) **6.55** A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.15** The Instant Gardener. (R) **8.05** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **11.45** Lorraine Pascale: How to Be a Better Cook. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** The Ladykillers: Pest Detectives. (R) **2.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **2.45 Film:** Laura. (1944) Murder mystery, with Dana Andrews and Gene Tierney. **4.10** Back in Time for Tea. (R) **5.10** The World's Most Extraordinary Homes. (R)

6.10 Film: Deep Impact. (1998) A TV reporter investigating a presidential misdemeanour stumbles on evidence that a comet is on a collision course with Earth, threatening the future of the human race. Meanwhile, an astronaut prepares to lead his crew on a do-or-die mission to intercept the danger. Sci-fi drama, starring Robert Duvall, Tea Leoni, Morgan Freeman and Elijah Wood.

8.00 Top Gear. Matt LeBlanc and Chris Harris take second-hand sports cars on a road trip across the Japanese island of Honshu, while Rory Reid explores Tokyo's weirdest car-based subculture.

9.00 Life and Death Row: The Mass Execution. A look at capital punishment through the eyes of young people whose lives have been shaped by it, including interviews from those on death row. Last in the series.

10.20 The Mash Report. Nish Kumar and a cast of comedy correspondents present this satirical and surreal take on the news during July 2017. (R)

10.50 Top Gear: Extra Gear. Rory Reid visits a secret stash of cars in Japan, and Chris Harris hits the track in a Nissan 370Z Nismo. With guests comedian Matt Richardson and racing driver Jann Mardenborough.

11.15 Women's Six Nations Highlights. Action from the fourth round of fixtures – France v England at the Stade des Alpes in Grenoble, Wales v Italy at the Principality Stadium and Ireland v Scotland at Donnybrook.

11.45 Sign Zone: Question Time. Topical debate from Westminster, chaired by David Dimbleby. (R)

12.45 Immigration: Who Should We Let In? – Panorama. (R) **1.15** Holby City. (R) **2.10** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Spy School. **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishfart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Love Your Garden. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** The Voice UK. (R) **12.20** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. (R) **2.00** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **2.30** Catchphrase Mother's Day Special. (R) **3.30** Tipping Point. (R) **4.30** ITV News; Weather. **4.45** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special. (R)

6.00 Dancing on Ice – The Final. Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby introduce the grand final of the competitive figure-skating contest, as the final three celebrities and the professional partners once again take to the ice as they seek to claim the title of Champion of the Rink. As ever, Jayne Torvill, Christopher Dean, Jason Gardiner and Ashley Banjo form the judging panel, assessing each couple's skills and ultimately delivering the scores that will combine with the results of a public vote to determine which couple will emerge victorious. Plus, Torvill and Dean also put on their skates for one triumphant showcase performance, drawing the show to a close. Last in the series.

8.00 Endeavour. Morse investigates the disappearance of a teacher from a secretive school, while Thursday is determined to find a link between Eddie Nero and his murder case. Last in the series.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.15 Peston on Sunday. Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with Allegra Stratton. (R)

11.15 Six Nations Highlights. Jill Douglas presents action from the fourth round of fixtures, featuring Ireland v Scotland, France v England and Wales v Italy.

12.15 100 Year Old Driving School. (R) **12.40** Marcella. (R) **1.30** Jackpot247. **3.00** Take on the Twisters. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) **6.35** 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) **7.00** Tennis: Tie Break Tens. **8.00** Winter Paralympics Breakfast. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Jamie's Quick & Easy Food. (R) **1.05** The Simpsons. (R) **1.35** The Simpsons. (R) **2.05** The Simpsons. (R) **2.35** The Simpsons. (R) **3.05** The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer. (R) **4.25** Crufts Extra with Alan and Clare. **5.30** Channel 4 News.

6.00 Winter Paralympics Today. Lee McKenzie and Jonnie Peacock are at Snow Centre in Hemel Hempstead to present action from day two of the Games in PyeongChang, South Korea. Great Britain's Kelly Gallacher and Scott Meenagh were medal hopes in the Super-G and 15km cross-country respectively, and Team GB had curling matches against Switzerland and Finland.

7.00 Crufts 2018: Best in Show. Clare Balding presents live coverage of the dog show as an overall champion is chosen from the six finalists. Plus, highlights of the Agility and Flyball finals and the gundog group judging, and a look back at the finalists' journey through the competition. Noel Fitzpatrick selects his favourite moments from this year's contest and there is a report on the benefits of raw dog food.

9.00 Homeland. Carrie's mission to free the 200 imprisoned members of the intelligence community looks up as she follows a new lead, while Saul's situation goes from bad to worse. Espionage drama, starring Claire Danes and Mandy Patinkin.

10.00 The Last Leg Winter Paralympic Special. Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker round-up action from the 2018 Winter Paralympics in Pyeongchang, with help from Noel Fielding and special guest Paralympians.

11.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy panel show's version of the words-and-numbers quiz, as Jon Richardson and David Mitchell take on guest captain Joe Wilkinson and Roisin Conaty. (R)

12.00 Married at First Sight. (R) **1.00** The Inbetweeners. (R) **1.30** Winter Paralympics Live. Day three from PyeongChang, South Korea.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Mofy. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.45** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.55** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.20** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.35** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.55** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **9.10** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.25** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.40** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.05** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.40** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.30** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** Britain's Greatest Bridges. **12.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.15** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.15 Film:** Open Season 2. (2008) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Joel McHale. **3.45 Film:** Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2. (2013) **5.25 Film:** Journey 2: The Mysterious Island. (2012)

6.25 5 News Update.

6.30 Film: Journey 2: The Mysterious Island. (2012) Concluded.

7.15 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Max and Steve head to London to try to recover more than £21,000 in court costs. Aron and Cona chase almost £7,000 owed after a debtor failed to repay a loan to her ex-partner. (R)

8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. The debt collectors take action to serve a writ issued for the organiser of a music festival. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Film: Olympus Has Fallen. (2013) A disgraced secret service agent tries to redeem himself when terrorists take control of the White House. Action thriller, starring Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart and Morgan Freeman.

10.00 5 News Update.

10.05 Film: Olympus Has Fallen. (2013) Concluded.

11.15 Film: Rise of the Krays. (2015) Biopic of the gangster brothers, charting their rise from amateur boxers to becoming the most feared criminals in London's underworld. With Kevin Leslie and Simon Cotton.

1.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** Cowboy Builders. (R) **4.00** Now That's Funny! (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** House Busters. (R) **5.35** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Ancient Greece: The Greatest Show on Earth **9.00 Film:** Michael Jackson's Journey from Motown to Off the Wall (2016) **10.30** Sings Motown **11.30** I'm Not In Love: The Story of 10cc **12.30** The Art of France **1.30** Smile! The Nation's Family Album **2.30** Sings Motown **3.30** The Beauty of Anatomy **4.00** Close

ITV2

12.20 The Voice UK **1.45 Film:** The Flintstones (1994) **2.45** FYI Daily **2.50 Film:** The Flintstones (1994) **3.30 Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **4.30** FYI Daily **4.35 Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **5.15 Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **6.15** FYI Daily **6.20 Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **7.10 Film:** Gravity (2013) **8.15** FYI Daily **8.20 Film:** Gravity (2013) **9.00** Ibiza Weekender **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30 Film:** Zack and Miri Make a Porno (2008) **1.30** FYI Daily **1.35 Film:** Zack and Miri Make a Porno (2008) **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.55 A Touch of Frost **3.55** Lewis **6.00** The Durrells **8.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs **9.00** Joanna Lumley's Trans-Siberian Adventure **10.00** An Audience with Victoria Wood **11.10** Lewis **1.10** Life of Crime **2.00** Blue Murder **3.20** Rising Damp

ITV4

12.20 Pawn Stars **1.50 Film:** Battle of Britain (1969) **2.50** FYI Daily **2.55 Film:** Battle of Britain (1969) **4.30 Film:** You Only Live Twice (1967) **5.35** FYI Daily **5.40 Film:** You Only Live Twice (1967) **6.50** Hornblower **9.00 Film:** Firefox (1982) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05 Film:** Firefox (1982) **11.45 Film:** Falling Down (1993) **12.50** FYI Daily **12.55 Film:** Falling Down (1993) **2.00** River Monsters **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen

E4

12.00 The Big Bang Theory: Mother's Day **4.30** The Goldbergs **5.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **6.00** Young Sheldon **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.55 Film:** I, Robot (2004) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00 Film:** The World's End (2013) **12.10** The Big Bang Theory **1.10** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **2.10** Timeless

Film4

11.00 Magic in the Water (1995) **1.00** A League of Their Own (1992) **3.40** We Bought a Zoo (2011) **6.05** The Karate Kid (2010) **9.00** The Mechanic (2011) **11.00** Captive (2015) **1.00** American Hustle (2013) **3.45** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

Deadly Daycare, Channel 5, 3.20pm
A divorcee suspects nursery staff of mistreating her young daughter. When the girl's increasingly awkward behaviour arouses suspicion, the mother plants a hidden camera on the premises and discovers why the owner may hold a grudge against her. Thriller, starring Kayla Ewell, Christy Carlson Romano and Bryce Johnson. Edited for daytime broadcast. (2014)

TUESDAY

Missing Daughter, Channel 5, 3.20pm
A couple hire a nanny to care for their adopted daughter, but the woman turns out to be someone from the husband's past intent on wrecking their marriage and lives. Thriller, starring Wes Brown, Austin Highsmith, Erin Cahill and Valerie Azlynn. Edited for daytime broadcast. (2017)

WEDNESDAY

Framed for Murder: A Fixer Upper Mystery, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A renovator working on a 19th-century home suspects foul play when the resident of the house next door is found dead. Light-hearted mystery, starring Jewel Kilcher. Edited for daytime broadcast. (2017)

The Artist, Wednesday, BBC1, 11.45pm

The Artist, BBC1, 11.45pm
A 1920s movie actor gives an actress her big break, but his career suffers with the advent of sound. Oscar-winning silent drama, starring Jean Dujardin and Berenice Bejo. (2011)

THURSDAY

Fatal Defense, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman signs up for self-defence classes. However, her handsome instructor soon develops a frightening obsession with her. Thriller, with Ashley Scott. (2017)

FRIDAY

Shanghai Knights, BBC1, 11.05pm
A Chinese sheriff and a reformed bandit hunt for a killer on the murky streets of Victorian London. Martial arts comedy sequel, starring Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson and Aidan Gillen. (2003)

PICK OF THE WEEK

Getting the inside story of a terrifying time for Britain

Over the space of four months in spring and summer last year, four terrorist attacks took place in the UK that would change the lives of hundreds of people forever.

This 90-minute documentary, featuring accounts from witnesses and members of the emergency services who were first on the scene, tells the dramatic story of each attack, remembering those who lost their lives and hearing from those who survived.

The atrocities began in on March 22, when Khalid Masood drove a hire car across Westminster Bridge in Central London, killing four pedestrians – Kurt Cochran, Leslie Rhodes, Aysha Frade and Andreea Cristea – and injuring dozens more.

After crashing his vehicle into railings close to Westminster Tube station, Masood ran into Parliament Square and fatally stabbed police officer Keith Palmer, who was posthumously awarded the George Medal, the second highest award for gallantry 'not in the face of the enemy'.

The attack, which lasted just 82 seconds, came to an end when Masood was fatally shot in the chest by an armed officer.

Exactly two months later, 22 people were killed when suicide bomber Salman Abedi detonated a homemade device laden with metal nuts as shrapnel in the lobby of Manchester Arena at the end of an Ariana Grande pop concert.

More than 200 people were injured in the deadliest terror attack on British soil since the 7/7 bombings in London in 2005.

The youngest victim, Saffie Roussos, was killed after becoming separated from her mum and sister at the venue. She was just eight years old.

Terror struck again in the capital the following month when three men drove a van into pedestrians on London Bridge before getting out and running into Borough Market.

Rachid Redouane, Khuram Butt and Youssef Zaghba – who were all wearing fake explosive vests – started stabbing people with long knives as horrified revellers ran away and tried to barricade themselves inside bars and restaurants.

Eight people were killed, with armed police shooting the three attackers dead just eight minutes after the first emergency calls are made.

Then, just 16 days later, another man, Makram Ali, died and several other people were injured when a van was driven into a group of Muslim worshippers outside a mosque in Finsbury Park, North London.

The vehicle hit pedestrians as they are leaving Ramadan night prayers around midnight.

Dad-of-four Darren Osborne, 47, from Cardiff, was subsequently charged with terrorism-related murder and attempted murder.

He was jailed for life at Woolwich Crown Court last month.

Last year has been dubbed 'Britain's Year Of Terror', and although the country still lives under the shadow of these attacks, this touching documentary shows there is hope.

Four Days That Shook Britain, Thursday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

The Repair Shop
BBC2, 6.30pm
New series. The return of the programme in which experts try to restore family heirlooms and treasured possessions to their former glories. In the first edition, Steven Fletcher tackles an intricate Boulle-work clock that hasn't ticked for more than 15 years, while soft toy restorers Julie Tatchell and Amanda Middleditch take on a threadbare wheeled elephant. Plus, woodwork specialist William Kirk gets to grips with one of the show's oldest-ever assignments in the form of a 300-year-old Georgian desk that is showing its age.

TUESDAY

Back in Time for Tea
BBC2, 8pm
We've come to the end of this social experiment, so inevitably the Ellis family reflect on their time-travelling adventure over the past few weeks. They explore how the legacy of 100 years of history lives on in the northern diet today. Lesley and Sara Cox visit a Liverpool bakery, and sisters Caitlin and Freya examine how recent changes on Manchester's Curry Mile affect peoples' evolving relationship with flavour. Finally Sara and northern chef Rob Owen Brown prepare a celebration meal.

WEDNESDAY

Saving the British Bulldog
BBC1, 9pm
The British bulldog is an iconic animal. It appears on memorabilia connected to our nation, and yet it's in trouble - and it's all our fault. Well, sort of. An obsession with creating the ëperfect' look for these beloved dogs has caused them to be over bred for years, resulting in serious health problems. At the start of the year, vets launched a nationwide campaign urging prospective dog owners to think twice about buying flat-faced breeds such as bulldogs. In this documentary, comedian, actress and all-round dog-lover Catherine Tate finds out more about the issue, examining the latest scientific research, which suggests controversial ways to help the breed, and ask a Kennel Club representative if they're doing enough to lend a hand.

The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story
BBC2, 9pm
Former Glee star Darren Criss continues to shine in this compelling slice of fact-based Miami vice centring on Andrew Cunanan. This week, TV personality and entrepreneur Marilyn Miglin returns home from a business trip to discover that her husband, Chicago real estate tycoon Lee Miglin, is missing. The police are quickly on the case to piece together the events, while Marilyn shapes the media story. Fans of MASH should look out for Mike Farrell in a supporting role, while Transparent star Judith Light lends able support.

Pilgrimage: The Road to Santiago, Friday, BBC2, 9pm

THURSDAY

Still Game
BBC1, 9.30pm
The news that the local undertaker has died and a creepy replacement has moved into town causes much commotion among the Clansman regulars. Nobody quite knows what to make of the new arrival, with Isa spreading stories that he could be the Grim Reaper himself. And despite their initial bravado, Jack and Victor are spooked when the man himself turns up in the pub, so they decide to find out who this mysterious new figure really is. Comedy, written by and starring Ford Kiernan and Greg Hemphill, with Jane McCarry, Bruce Morton, Gavin Mitchell and Sanjeev Kohli.

FRIDAY

Pilgrimage: The Road to Santiago
BBC2, 9pm
Last year, Debbie McGee showed off her twinkle toes on Strictly Come Dancing, but her feet are going to take even more punishment in this new series, which sees her and six other celebrities putting on their backpacks and walking boots to tackle the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage. The ancient 780km path across northern Spain to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela and the shrine of St James usually takes at least a month to walk, but as Debbie and her fellow celebs actor Neil Morrissey, comedian Ed Byrne, singer Heather Small, priest Kate Bottley, journalist Raphael Rowe and TV presenter JJ Chalmers have just 15 days in which to complete it, they will travel some of it by minibus. But they will still be doing plenty of walking, as well as reflecting on whether a medieval pilgrimage has any relevance in the modern day.

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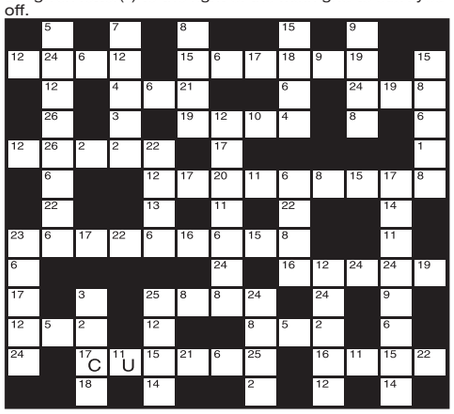
Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



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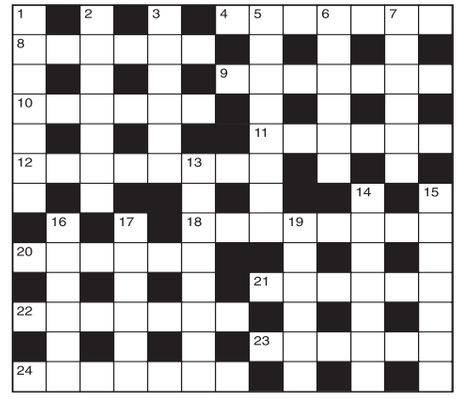
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
B	M	C	K	N	E	W	R	D	X	Q	T	V
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
I	Z	U	L	F	P	S	H	J	A	Y	G	O

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

4. Equitable method on the golf course? (7)
8. Understanding about a boy (6)
9. The pretentious fellow is out of bed to begin with (7)
10. Italian can't be bothered about us (6)
11. Did a staggering dance? (6)
12. This material makes part of the body atrophy (8)
18. Obese, and with a roll, he believes what will be will be (8)
20. Succeed in making the fellow look older (6)
21. He's used to slippery affairs (6)
22. Desperate position in narrow channel (7)
23. Nine to chant (6)
24. Article on a divine finish in supplement (7)

Down

1. Speech is nothing to charge deserter with (7)
2. Father's judicious journey (7)
3. Kill graduate for his estate (6)
5. Father is torn both ways, it would seem (8)
6. Preferably desert the female (6)
7. Concurred it is a deadly sin (6)
13. Beaten by achievement, indeed (8)
14. Fit coin into story (7)
15. Began to recognize Edward as a top actor (7)
16. With rugs entangled in thick mass (6)
17. Rag about how old vehicle building is (6)
19. Making a request from the throne (6)

Quick Clues:

Across

4. Diversity (7)
8. Believed (6)
9. Narrative (7)
10. Puma (6)
11. Thorny (6)
12. Contrite (8)
18. Begin (8)
20. Hue (6)
21. Hit (6)
22. Funny (7)
23. Hold back (6)
24. Long (7)

Down

1. Idea (7)
2. Appetising (7)
3. Leave (6)
5. Habituate (8)
6. Satirical (6)
7. Suffused (6)
13. Intrude (8)
14. Brutal (7)
15. Enfeebles (7)
16. Churlish (6)
17. Advent (6)
19. Murmur (6)

Sudoku

3		8						6
		7	6		2	8		
	5			7			3	2
	3	9				2	6	
			9	5				8
	8	1				9	5	
	9			6			8	
		3	1		4	5		
7					5			3

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	2	9	3	4	1	7	8	6
7	6	3	8	2	5	1	4	9
1	4	8	9	6	7	5	2	3
6	8	4	1	5	9	3	7	2
3	7	2	4	8	6	9	5	1
9	1	5	7	3	2	4	6	8
2	9	6	5	7	3	8	1	4
8	3	7	6	1	4	2	9	5
4	5	1	2	9	8	6	3	7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Investments; 9 Rip; 10 Trenchant; 11 Juror; 13 Student; 14 Cruise; 16 Merino; 18 Indiana; 19 Sonic; 20 Numerator; 21 Tap; 22 Snow leopard. Down: 2 Nap; 3 Eater; 4 Theism; 5 Exclude; 6 Tragedian; 7 Projections; 8 Stethoscope; 12 Roundsman; 15 Sparrow; 17 Battle; 19 Strip; 21 Tar.
QUICK - Across: 1 Suppression; 9 Ewe; 10 Guarantee; 11 Enemy; 13 Expense; 14 Escort; 16 Entomb; 18 Impulse; 19 Tutor; 20 Universal; 21 Opt; 22 Incessantly.
Down: 2 Use; 3 Pygmy; 4 Erased; 5 Sharpen; 6 Out-and-out; 7 Deleterious; 8 Reverberate; 12 Exception; 15 Relieve; 17 Versus; 19 Talon; 21 Oil.

Quiz

1. What is the USA's equivalent of the Epsom Derby?
2. Who was the first woman, according to Greek mythology?
3. Which former Middle East empire's capital was Nineveh?
4. What sort of creature is a bluetongue?
5. Which Australian port is at the mouth of the Swan river?
6. Which martial art's name is Japanese for 'gentle way'?
7. Of what is the Sequoiadendron giganteum the world's largest?
8. Which war opened with the Battle of Lexington and Concord?
9. What was the Democratic Republic of the Congo called from 1971-97?
10. What was the BBC's teletext service called?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Bradley Stone; 2 Florin; 3 Élysée Palace; 4 Coconut; 5 Aneurin Bevan; 6 San Marino; 7 Jacobins; 8 Cheetah; 9 Wailing Wall; 10 Order of the Garter.

Niner: PULSATING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

46785365 gives a leader,
1232485 gives a second leader,
9248 gives a wise man.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Turtley awesome Caribbean food

WITH friends down for the weekend – and not a child in sight – we decided to look for somewhere with a bit of a party atmosphere that didn't break the bank and also had a reputation for good food.

Venturing in to Birmingham city centre, there is a fair amount to choose from but one style of food I had always wanted to experience but never had – other than at music festivals when the tastebuds weren't exactly at the top of their game – was Caribbean food.

When thinking of Caribbean cooking, the mind immediately wanders to scotch bonnets, coconut milk, all spice, fantastic rubs and seasoning for all sorts of meats and fish – and of course, jerk sauce. So, after a short debate, we settled on Turtle Bay, which sits on the corner of the bustling John Bright Street.

Babyback pork ribs – just one of the many choices

Bright lights and buzzing atmosphere inside

COCKTAILS

Plenty of bars and restaurants have opened up in that area of Birmingham and there is a lot of competition, so it speaks volumes for Turtle Bay that is was absolutely packed when we arrived just after 4pm.

Friday and Saturday evenings get very busy, especially as the restaurant prides itself on serving fresh food, but we arrived purposely early so we could sample a few of the cocktails, which were two-for-one during certain times. And it's fair to say the Saturday night party atmosphere was already in full swing as we went to the bar to order our drinks.

Where to start with the cocktail menu? To say the list is extensive would be an understatement. But if you like a cocktail, or fancy popping somewhere to try one as a one-off, Turtle Bay would be a good place to start.

It was a little earlier than the 5pm reservation time but the staff were happy to seat us, which was a nice touch.

For those who like sharing, the 'cutters' section would be ideal because you can choose either three dishes for £14 or four for £18. The idea is inspired by beach shacks and street vendors across the Caribbean islands, and the dishes are also perfect for a starter.

We shared a starter per couple, opting for crispy spiced panko coated squid, mango mole, fresh lime and jerk mayo. When it came to the mains it was a challenge to pick just one meal from the large choice on offer.

During a weekday, had we not been planning a few drinks after, the goat curry would have pretty much been a sure-fire pick for me. In the end I settled for West Indian steamed snapper, as it seemed a bit lighter. The snapper fillet came served in light coconut curry sauce, garlic, ginger, scotch bonnet, sweet onion chutney and fresh coconut shavings. I could not have chosen better.

My wife, Kelly, went for the grilled jerk marinated pork ribs, served with sweet potato fries, sour orange chutney and Caribbean slaw.Kelly doesn't like her foot too spicy, so the coconut sauce with the meat was ideal.

Our friend Jo went for the pit-grilled two-way chicken burger, which was a spicy panko crumb chicken fillet and pulled jerk chicken, served with tomato and fresh pineapple chow and her fiancé, Dale, chose half a pit-grilled chicken, coconut rice 'n' peas, sour orange chutney, coconut shavings and Caribbean slaw. He said the meal looked really good but lacked a bit of the flavour the description warranted.

We didn't fancy a pudding but there were plenty of options available.

It wouldn't be fair to review Turtle Bay without reaffirming how good the atmosphere was. Highly recommended if you fancy somewhere a bit more upbeat.

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

House in popular hamlet convenient for commuting

Brook Lodge on School Lane, Dunston is an individually designed four-bedroomed detached family house in a popular rural hamlet with well-stocked gardens of 0.4 acre with a stream.

Conveniently located for access to Stafford and Penkridge, and for the A449, A5, the M6 Toll and M54 motorway, it is for sale through Boot & Son at £415,000.

Having oil fired central heating, its accommodation briefly comprises porch, reception hall, cloakroom with WC, study, lounge, dining rom, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, utility room, four double bedrooms, en-suite bathroom, a detached double width garage and an in and out driveway.

In more detail the hall has a feature hardwood balustrade to the stairs. The guest cloakroom is half tiled and has a wash hand basin in a laminate surround, cupboards below and an extractor fan.

The lounge has a brick feature fire surround and a quarry hearth, a bow window, exposed beams and doors to the dining room, which in turn have sliding patio doors leading to the conservatory with ceramic tiled flooring and a light/fan unit.

Fully tiled, the breakfast kitchen has solid oak fronted units incorporating base units, drawers, laminate working surfaces, wall cupboards, glazed display cabinets, shelving, a wine rack, an integrated automatic dishwasher, electric eye level double oven, an electric hob, oven hood, integrated fridge and freezer and ceramic tiled flooring, kick-board mounted electric fan heater and a door leading to the utility room.

Bedroom one has built-in furniture incorporating built-in wardrobes, a bed recess with storage cupboards, dresser, additional built-in wardrobes, and an en-suite split level family bathroom.

Outside is a detached double width garage with a workshop area and remote controlled up and over door. There is also a timber garden store, aluminium framed greenhouse and an oil storage tank.

DUNSTON £415,000

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Boot & Son
TEL: 01543 505454
EMAIL: info@bootandson.co.uk

KEY FEATURES

- Individually designed detached
- 4 bedrooms
- Popular hamlet
- Well stocked 0.4 acre gardens
- Convenient for commuting

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Land to Rear of 77 Old Fallow Road, Cannock	11.00am	11.00am
4 Jones Lane, Slitting Mill	11.45am	11.45am
125 Rugeley Road, Hazel Slade	12.00pm	12.00pm
Land at Wandon Cross, Rugeley	12.45pm	12.45pm
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LOT 1

4 JONES LANE, SLITTING MILL, WS12 2UJ

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- Considerably improved and extended
- Four bedroomed detached house
- Located in much sought after hamlet within Cannock Chase
- Close to facilities at Rugeley, Cannock and Stafford
- Gas fired central heating, fully double glazed
- With planning permission to extend
- EPC rating D (64)

GUIDE PRICE £340,000 - £360,000

LOT 2

2 NEW STREET, MERRY HILL, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV3 7NW
FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT (Regulated Tenancy)

- Located in popular residential area
- Semi detached house
- Close to neighbourhood shops
- Producing £4,680 per annum
- EPC rating F (27)

GUIDE PRICE £88,000 - £94,000

LOT 3

41 ALBERT ROAD, HALESOWEN, B63 4SW
FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT (Assured Periodic Tenancy)

- Traditional semi detached house
- Brick render and tile construction
- Convenient for Halesowen town centre
- Producing £6,760 P.A.
- EPC rating G (19)

GUIDE PRICE £85,000 - £95,000

LOT 4

19 SMITH ROAD, WALSALL, WS2 9DJ
FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT (Assured Periodic Tenancy)

- Traditional built inner terraced house
- Brick and slate construction
- Convenient for Walsall town centre and junction 9 of M6 motorway
- Producing £5,200 per annum
- EPC rating G (20)

GUIDE PRICE £70,000 - £75,000

LOT 5

PARCEL OF FREEHOLD LAND FORMING PART OF VACANT SITE ADJ 44 HUNTINGTON TERRACE ROAD, CANNOCK
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- Roughly rectangular shaped parcel of freehold land
- With frontage of 3.5m to Huntington Terrace Road and long return depth there from of about 41m

GUIDE PRICE £5,000+

LOT 6

FREEHOLD LAND FRONTING COLLIERY ROAD, RUGELEY
10.63 acres or thereabouts
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- A good size parcel of freehold land comprising part pasture and part mixed woodland
- Situated on the land is a building of improvised construction providing storage
- Ideally located for riding out onto Cannock Chase
- Conveniently located for Rugeley, Hednesford and Cannock

GUIDE PRICE £55,000+

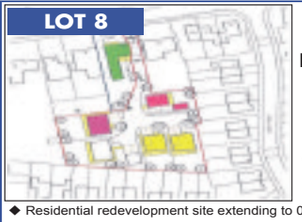
LOT 7

PARCEL OF LAND FRONTING STARTLEY LANE WITH RETURN FRONTAGE TO COLLIERY ROAD, RUGELEY
9.2 acres or thereabouts
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- Parcel of freehold land comprising part pasture land and part mixed woodland
- Having on road frontage to Startley Lane and return frontage to Colliery Road
- Ideally located for riding out onto Cannock Chase
- Conveniently located for Rugeley, Hednesford and Cannock

GUIDE PRICE £45,000+

LOT 8



LAND REAR OF 77 OLD FALLOW ROAD, CANNOCK, WS11 5QL

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- Residential redevelopment site extending to 0.22 Ha or thereabouts
- Having O.P.P for the erection of 5 detached houses
- Planning application no: 15/0410 Cannock Chase Council

GUIDE PRICE £275,000 - £300,000

LOT 9

32 & 32A PRINCESS STREET, CHADSMOOR, CANNOCK, WS11 5JS
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- Semi detached house arranged as two self contained flats
- Good size site
- Predominantly double glazed
- Ideal buy to let
- EPC rating number 32 - TBC
- EPC rating number 32a – TBC

GUIDE PRICE £75,000+

LOT 10

125 RUGELEY ROAD, HAZEL SLADE, WS12 0PG

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- Detached bungalow (potential for re-development subject to planning permission)
- 2/3 bedrooms
- Detached garage
- Double glazed
- Gas central heating (No tested)
- In need of modernisation
- EPC rating E (53)

GUID EPRICE £200,000-£250,000

LOT 11

PORT LANE COTTAGE, PORT LANE, CHILLINGTON, BREWOOD, WV9 5BH

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- A rare opportunity to acquire a detached cottage with benefit of planning permission for two storey extension to the rear
- Occupying grounds extending to approx 0.267 acres
- Set in rural position on the edge of the historic Chillington Estate with access to walks along the upper and lower avenue and shropshire union canal
- EPC rating G (1)

GUIDE PRICE £250,000+

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CHESLYN HAY
KESTREL WAY

Detached House	Gas Central Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Dining Room	Rear Garden
Kitchen	Garage
4 Bedrooms	EPC Rating D
Bathroom	

£255,000

CANNOCK
NEWHALL STREET

Modern Detached	En Suite
House	Bathroom
Lounge	Gas Central Heating
Kitchen Diner	Double Glazing
Guest WC	Allocated Parking
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating C

£220,000

CANNOCK
NEWHALL STREET

Traditional Detached	3 Bedrooms
House	Bathroom
Lounge	Gas Central Heating
Kitchen Diner	Double Glazing
2nd Reception Room	Allocated Parking
Guest WC	EPC Rating D

£210,000

CHESLYN HAY
LITTLEWOOD LANE

Semi Detached	Bathroom
House	Gas Central Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Kitchen	Rear Garden
Utility Room	Driveway
4 Bedrooms	Awaiting EPC

£190,000

WEDGES MILLS
THE MEADOWS

Town House	Conservatory
Lounge	GCH & DG
Kitchen	Rear Garden
3 Bedrooms	Parking
Bathroom	EPC Rating C
Guest WC	

£174,995

HEATH HAYES
HELIGAN PLACE

Terrace House	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating C
Bathroom	
Gas Central Heating	

£129,995

CANNOCK
PHEASANT WAY

3 Storey Town House	GCH & DG
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen Diner	Parking
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating C
Family Bathroom	
En Suite	

£675 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEDNESFORD
BROMLEY CLOSE

Unfurnished	Family Bathroom
Semi Detachd House	GCH & DG
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen Diner	Parking
3 Bedrooms	EPC Rating D
En Suite	

£650 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BRIDGTOWN
ROMAN COURT A5

Unfurnished	Protected Access
Executive Apartments	Parking
Lounge	AVAILABLE MID
Kitchen	MARCH
2 Bedrooms	REGISTER
Bathroom	INTEREST NOW

£625 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
WOOTTONS COURT

2nd Floor Flat	Protected Access
Lounge	Allocated Parking
Kitchen	Sold with Sitting
1 Bedroom	Tenant
Bathroom	EPC Rating D
Electric Heating	

£79,995

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

INVESTMENT	Shower Room
PURCHASE	Double Glazing
Protected Access	Parking
Lounge	EPC Rating C
Kitchen	
1 Bedroom	

£71,995

WIMBLEBURY
HAMILTON CLOSE

First Floor Flat	Double Glazing
Lounge	Spacious Loft
Kitchen	Parking
1 Bedroom	EPC Rating D
Bathroom	
Electric Heating	

£65,000

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

Unfurnished	2 Bedrooms
Semi Detached	Bathroom
House	Gas Central Heating
Lounge	Double Glazing
Dining Room	Rear Garden
Kitchen	Awaiting EPC

£595 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEDNESFORD
GREENWOOD PARK

Unfurnished	Bathroom
Semi Detached	Gas Central Heating
House	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating C

£575 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

BURNTWOOD
PRINCESS STREET

Unfurnished	Gas Central Heating
End Terrace House	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	EPC Rating D
2 Bedrooms	
Bathroom	

£130 pw & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
DEAVALL WAY

Unfurnished	Bathroom
Semi Detached	Electric Heating
House	Double Glazing
Lounge	Rear Garden
Kitchen	Parking
2 Bedrooms	EPC Rating E

£525 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
THE HEATH

Unfurnished	Electric Heating
2nd Floor Flat	Double Glazing
Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	EPC Rating C
2 Bedrooms	
Bathroom	

£500 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

WIMBLEBURY
NELSON DRIVE

Unfurnished	Electric Heating
First Floor Flat	Double Glazing
Lounge	Parking
Kitchen	EPC Rating D
1 Bedroom	
Bathroom	

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Hednesford Road, Rugeley — £249,950

NEW

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this very well presented traditional semi detached family home. Arranged over three floors the property includes, reception porch, impressive dining kitchen , lounge, three good sized bedrooms, luxury bathroom and conservatory to the rear. The large rear garden and extensive frontage also add appeal to the property and

Windsor Close, Rugeley — £245,000

NEW

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this exceptionally well presented detached family home in a cul-de-sac location. The property benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. The property consists of entrance hallway, guest wc, lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen, three bedrooms (originally four), en suite

Lodge Road, Brereton — £155,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer to the market this three bedroom semi detached family home, being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for several vehicles to Detached Garage and Garden to rear.

Lower Lodge, Armitage — £139,950

● JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three bedroom mobile home,situated on a corner plot adjacent to woodland. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge to Open Plan Dining Room,Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms and Shower Room. Parking and Good sized gardens to all sides. "MUST BE VIEWED TO APPRECIATE"

The Lindens, Rugeley — £210,000

NEW PRICE

● JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three storey ,four bedroom family home. Offering flexible accommodation and having Entrance Hallway, Guest W.C, Breakfast Kitchen, Lounge and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom and Further Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite. Gardens to front and rear and Detached Garage with ample parking.

Deacons Way, Rugeley — £315,000

NEW PRICE

● JR Properties are pleased to market this five bedroom executive property,being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Dining Room,Lounge, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen and Utility. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite, Four further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for several vehicles to Garage and Garden to rear with open aspect to fields

Uttoxeter Road, Hill Ridware — £275,000

MUST BE VIEWED

● JR Properties are pleased to market this five bedroom family home, situated in the sought after village of Hill Ridware. Being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN and having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Two Reception Rooms, Lounge, Study, Fitted Kitchen and Utility with Cloakroom. Landing to Five Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway providing parking for several vehicles and Garden to rear.

Deerleap Way, Rugeley — £164,950

NEW

● JR Properties are pleased to market this four bedroom link detached family home, situated on a corner plot and close to local amenities. Having Porch, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Bedroom Four. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear.

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Setterfield Way, Brereton £102,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this one bedroom terraced bungalow, being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Accommodation having Entrance Hallway, Shower Room, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen and Bedroom. Gardens to front and rear with on road parking

Woodthorne Close, Rugeley £155,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this extended three bedroom semi detached home, in a quiet cul de sac location. Having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge and Dining Room.Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN

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Daywell Rise, Rugeley £129,950

● JR Properties are pleased to market this three bedroom semi detached home,being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear and Detached Garage with off road parking.

Portobello, Rugeley £159,995

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached property in a popular cul-de-sac location close local amenities. Having the benefit of NO UPWARD CHAIN the property does require some modernisation and features gas central heating and double glazing, lounge/diner, kitchen, conservatory, three

Ravenhill Terrace, Brereton £120,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented two bedroom end terrace property in a popular location. The property benefits from two good size bedrooms and reception rooms and is an ideal FTB/ Investment purchase

Armitage Road, Rugeley £249,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this superbly presented detached three storey property in a popular location and built by Walton Homes. Internally the interesting layout includes four good size bedrooms, main bathroom and two en suites, refitted kitchen, lounge and garage with well presented frontage and rear garden, viewing highly recommended

Lockside View, Rugeley £229,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer this well presented four bedroom, three storey family home. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Utility Room and Guest Cloakroom. First Floor Landing with Office Area, Master Bedroom with En Suite, Bedroom Two, Family Shower Room and Second landing to Two further Double Bedrooms. Driveway to Garage and Gardens to front and rear.

Middle Croft, Hawksyard £259,950

● JR Properties are pleased to market this modern four bedroom family home, situated on the popular Hawksyard Estate. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge and Good sized Family Breakfast Kitchen. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite, Three further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Gardens to front and rear.

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Hednesford Road Heath Hayes

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- Plenty of Storage
- Large Master Bedroom
- Modern Bathroom
- Secure Gated Parking
- Popular Area
- EPC = C

£110,000

Wade Street Lichfield

£210,000

• City Centre Two Bedroom Town House • Living Room & Fitted Kitchen
• Refitted Bathroom • Off Road Parking To Rear
• No Onward Chain • EPC = C

Knighton Road Wimblebury

£205,000

• Four Bed Link Detached House • Two Reception Rooms
• Rear Garden • Garage & Driveway
• No Upward Chain • EPC = D

Packington Mews Cannock

£215,000

• Immaculately Modern Presented Detached House • Three Bedrooms
• Lounge, Dining Room and Conservatory • En Suite Shower Room & Family Bathroom
• Carport & Corner Plot Position • EPC = C

Wolverhampton Road Cannock

£130,000

• Attention First Time Buyers & Investors • Semi Detached House
• Three Bedrooms • Two Reception Rooms
• Rear Garden • EPC = E

Lowland Road Cannock

£139,950

• Renovated Throughout • Three Bedrooms
• Driveway • Enclosed Rear Garden with Storage
• NO CHAIN! • EPC = F

Stafford Lane Hednesford

£174,950

• Three Bedroom Semi Detached House • Living Room with Dining Area
• Fitted Kitchen • Conservatory
• Driveway Parking & Garage • EPC = C

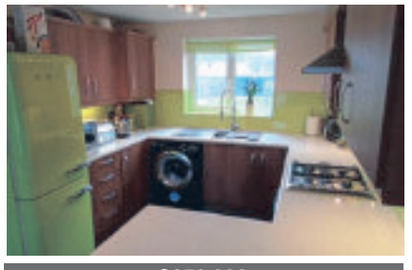
Stafford Street Heath Hayes

£200,000

• Three Bedroom Detached House • Kitchen Breakfast Room
• Lounge Diner • Conservatory
• Driveway & Garage • EPC = D

Colliers Way Huntington

- Five Bedroom Detached
- Two En-Suites & Family Bathroom
- Open Plan Kitchen Diner
- Guest W/C
- Rear Garden
- Garage & Driveway
- Immaculately Presented
- EPC = C



£250,000

Lovett & Co. estate agents

ONLY 0.9%* INC VAT

* terms and conditions apply

Watermint Close
WIMBLEBURY

Well presented four bedroom detached family home / Enviable corner plot position at the end of a quiet & sought after cul-de-sac / Parking for several vehicles plus an adjoining double garage / Large

£300,000

Newbury Road
NORTON CANES

Four bedroom detached house / Set on a good sized corner plot / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern fitted kitchen & bathrooms / Private rear garden

£300,000

Bramwell Drive
HEDNESFORD

Outstanding & immaculately presented four bedroom town house / Occupying a large corner plot / High spec finish throughout / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Two en-suites

£280,000

Gorsemoor Road
HEATH HAYES

Immaculately presented and deceptively spacious four bedroom detached house / Set on large end plot / Generously extended on ground floor / Modern fitted high spec kitchen

£270,000

Littleworth Road
HEDNESFORD

Immaculately presented four bedroom semi-detached dormer style property / Extensive first floor conversion / Integral oversized garage / Large lounge with dining area / Breakfast Kitchen

£245,000

Asquith Drive
HEATH HAYES

Four bedroom detached house / Well established and sought after residential area / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / UPVC conservatory

£245,000

WHY PAY MORE WHEN YOU CAN PAY LESS!

THE SAVINGS YOU WILL MAKE

Sale Price Achieved	Standard Estate Agent's Fee @ 2.16% Inc VAT	Lovett&Co Estate Agent Fee @ 0.9% Inc VAT	The Savings YOU will make with Lovett&Co.
£105,000	£2,268	£997	£1,271
£150,000	£3,240	£1,425	£1,815
£200,000	£4,320	£1,900	£2,420
£300,000	£6,480	£2,860	£3,630
£500,000	£10,800	£4,760	£6,050

*Standard Estate Agents Fee Staffordshire @2.16% Inc VAT. Source. Rightmove (April 2017)

rightmove.co.uk | Zoopla.co.uk | PrimeLocation.com | The Property Ombudsman

Corsican Drive
HEDNESFORD

Well presented four bedroom detached house / Set on sought after residential estate

£240,000

Streets Lane
CHESLYN HAY

Well presented and superbly maintained four bedroom detached family home / Sought after location / Superb spacious open plan lounge-diner / Integral garage and driveway

Offers in Excess of £230,000

Wade Lane
RUGELEY

Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Set on good sized corner plot / highly sought after area / Spacious lounge / Kitchen-diner / Good sized low maintenance rear garden

£230,000

Walsall Road
BRIDGTOWN

Spacious extended four bedroom detached house / Set on a large plot / Spacious reception rooms and bedrooms / Large private rear garden which is not overlooked,

£225,000

Pendle Hill
HEDNESFORD

Well presented semi detached three bedroom house / Set over three storeys / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / Private rear garden / Superb top floor master bedroom

£210,000

Trent View Close
RUGELEY

Immaculately presented three bedroom semi-detached house / Large end corner plot in a quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious lounge and dining room / Two storey side extension with a modern kitchen / Three

£190,000

Strauss Drive
HEATH HAYES

Well presented three storey town house/ NO ONWARD CHAIN / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Victorian conservatory / Private rear garden / Driveway,

Offers in Excess of £175,000

Broadmeadow Lane
GREAT WYRLEY

Extremely well presented two bedroom end terrace house / Superb spacious open plan lounge-diner / Delightful conservatory / Modern fitted breakfast kitchen and bathroom

£155,000

Almond Close
HEATH HAYES

Two-three bedroom town house / Quiet cul-de-sac next to a peaceful nature reserve / Two double bedrooms / New drive for 4 vehicles / Spacious first floor lounge and breakfast kitchen / Ground floor

Offers in Excess of £150,000

Elder Close
HEATH HAYES

Two bedroom semi detached house / Set back from the road at the end of a private driveway / Spacious lounge and modern fitted kitchen-diner / Driveway for two vehicles / Good sized rear garden

£140,000

Goya Close
HEATH HAYES

Well p[resented two bedroom house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Private and well maintained rear garden / New windows throughout /Two double bedrooms

£137,995

Littleworth Road
RAWNSLEY

Traditional two bedroom mid terraced house / Peaceful semi rural location / Spacious reception rooms / Private rear courtyard and rear parking area for up to four vehicles

£130,000

Church View
BRERETON

Charming two bedroom terraced cottage / Spacious lounge / Large double bedroom plus a further good sized single / Private rear courtyard / Off road parking

£120,000

Frank Rogers Walk
RUGELEY

Well presented one bedroom semi detached bungalow / Set back from the road in a quiet location / Double bedroom / Modern fitted shower room / Private rear garden

£100,000

Bettys Lane
NORTON CANES

Well presented one bedroom first floor self contained maisonette / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Superb open plan living area / Modern fitted kitchen, newly fitted bathroom / Double bedroom

£97,950

Uxbridge Street
HEDNESFORD

Two bedroom end terraced property / Dining room & kitchen / Small rear courtyard with shed & fenced borders

£95,000

Victoria Street
CHADSMOOR

One bedroom maisonette / Situated on first floor / Completely renovated throughout / Enclosed rear garden / Access gate leading to front of property

Offers in the Region Of £69,950

Arran Close
CANNOCK

Two bedroom ground floor apartment / Property is being sold with a sitting tenant / Rental income of £495 PCM / Exciting investment opportunity / Spacious lounge

Offers in Excess of £67,000

Tel: 01543 889410 www.lovettco.co.uk

Rugeley
01889 358689

Jayman

Cannock
01543 505566

Earlswood Way, Cannock

Offers Around £70,000

Second Floor Apartment	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	60% Shared Ownership
Lounge	EPC C

Union Street, Cannock

End Terrace Property
Two Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Bathroom
EPC D

Offers Around £100,000

Flat 6 Wolverhampton road

Offers Over £70,000

Second Floor Apartment	Refurbished
Two Double Bedrooms	Sold With Tenant
Lounge / Diner	EPC E

Greenslade Grove, Hednesford

NEW

Offers Around £82,500

Well Presented Flat	Kitchen
One Bedroom	Communal Garden
Lounge	EPC D

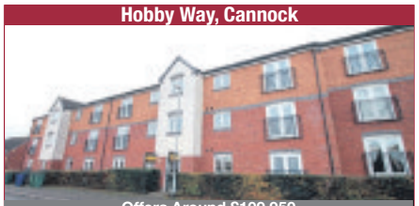
The Avenue, Wednesbury

NEW

Offers Around £84,950

Apartment	Bathroom
Two Bedrooms	Allocated Parking
Open Plan Living	Awaiting EPC

Hobby Way, Cannock



Offers Around £109,950

Ground Floor Apartment	Bathroom
Two Bedrooms	Allocated Parking
Kitchen / Diner	EPC C

Field Street, Cannock

Offers Over £125,000

Semi Detached Property	Dining Room
Two Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC E

Bryans Way, Cannock

Offers Around £130,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge / Diner	Awaiting EPC

Shire Close, Cannock

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Bathroom, En Suite
Off Road Parking
EPC B

Offers Around £190,000

Trent Road, Cannock

Offers Around £135,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Off Road Parking
Lounge / Diner	Awaiting EPC

Bank Street, Cannock

Offers Around £140,000

Terraced Property	En Suite
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC F

Sunley Drive, Hednesford

NEW

Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Converted Garage
Lounge	EPC C

Sunley Drive, Hednesford

Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Garage
Lounge	EPC G

Badgers Way, Heath Hayes

Offers Around £170,000

Link Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Conservatory
Lounge	EPC D

John Street, Cannock

Offers Around £185,000

Domer Semi Detached Bungalow	Rear Garden
Four Bedrooms	Garage
Fitted Kitchen	EPC E

Uttoxeter Road, Handsacre

End Terrace Property
Three Bedrooms
Two Bathrooms
Off Road Parking
NO CHAIN
EPC C

Offers Around £190,000

Far Lady Croft, Armitage

Offers Around £192,500

Town House Property	Fitted Kitchen
Four Bedrooms	Off Road Parking
Lounge / Diner	EPC B

Free Valuations

Covering: Cannock, Hednesford, Rugeley, Lichfield, Burntwood, Tamworth and Brownhills

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The UK's number one property website

ARLA

MIDLANDS ESTATE AGENCY of the YEAR 2013

MIDLANDS LETTINGS AGENCY of the YEAR 2013

THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE TIMES

Rugeley
01889 358689

Jayman

Cannock
01543 505566

Woodmill, Yoxall

Offers Around £200,000

Terraced Cottage	Rear Garden
Two Bedrooms	Rural Location
Kitchen/Diner	EPC E

Richardson Way

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Cinema Room
Conservatory
NO CHAIN
EPC C

Offers Around £270,000

Canon Lane, Rugeley

NEW

Offers Around £209,950

Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	Rear Garden
Lounge	EPC C

Rickerscote, Staffordshire

Offers Around £220,000

Well Presented Cottage	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Well Maintained Gardens
Lounge	EPC E

The Meadows, Cannock

Offers Over £230,000

Detached Property	Kitchen
Three Bedrooms	NO CHAIN
Lounge	EPC C

Chaplain Road, Cannock

Offers Around £230,000

Detached Bungalow	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Off Road Parking
Lounge	Awaiting EPC

Stoneyfields Close, Cannock

Offers Around £230,000

Detached Bungalow	Kitchen
Two Bedrooms	Garage
Lounge	EPC E

Station Road, Hednesford

Offers Around £240,000

Deatched Property	Rear Garden
Four Bedrooms	NO CHAIN
Lounge Area	EPC E

Broad Lane, Essington

REDUCED

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Kitchen / Breakfast Area
Conservatory
Private Rear Garden
Awaiting EPC

Offers Around £280,000

Shugborough Way, Cannock

NEW

Offers Around £280,000

Detached Property	Conservatory
Four Bedrooms	Off Road Parking
Lounge	Awaiting EPC

Fourlands Avenue, Sutton Coldfield

Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Dining Room
Garage
Awaiting EPC

Offers Around £300,000

Sherbrook Road, Cannock

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Three Reception Rooms
Off Road Parking
Corner Plot
EPC D

Offers Around £315,000

Rugeley Road, Hazelslade

New Build Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Choice of Kitchen
Two En Suites
Rear Garden
Awaiting EPC

Offers Around £375,000

Merlin Close, Brownhills

REDUCED

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Two En Suites
Extended
Quiet Cul De Sac Location
EPC C

Offers Over £290,000

Free Valuations

Covering: Cannock, Hednesford, Rugeley, Lichfield, Burntwood, Tamworth and Brownhills

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The UK's number one property website

ARLA

MIDLANDS ESTATE AGENCY of the YEAR 2013

MIDLANDS LETTINGS AGENCY of the YEAR 2013

THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE TIMES

Marwood Homes

Sales Lettings Commercial Surveys

OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK

- Detached Family Home
- Five Bedrooms & Study
- Two Bathrooms
- Open Plan Kitchen / Dining Room
- Living Room & Family Room
- No Upward Chain
- Utility / WC
- Very Desirable Road

£430,000

SHERBROOK ROAD, CANNOCK

- CORNER PLOT GARDENS
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- DOUBLE LENGTH GARAGE
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED
- POTENITAL FOR EXTENSIONS
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- HUGE POTENTIAL

£315,000

Burgoyne Street, Cannock

- SPACIOUS FOUR BED DETACHED
- BATHROOM & TWO EN-SUITES
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN & CONSERVATORY
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- ENCLOSED DRIVEWAY & GARDEN

£270,000

Turquoise Grove, Heath Hayes

- FOUR BEDROOMS
- ENSUITE & BATHROOM
- CUL DE SAC LOCATION
- GARAGE
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- FRONT & REAR GARDEN
- CONSERVATORY
- MODERN KITCHEN

£255,000

VIVALDI DRIVE, HEATH HAYES

- WELL PRESENTED DETACHED HOME
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- EN-SUITE & BATHROOM
- BREAKFAST KITCHEN
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE & CONSERVATORY
- EPC - C

£240,000

HEDNESFORD ROAD, HEATH HAYES

- STUNNING THREE BED SEMI
- GATED PARKING TO SIDE
- MODERN KITCHEN / DINER
- GARAGE & LANDSCAPED GARDEN
- LOUNGE & CONSEVATORY
- STYLISH BATHROOM SUITE
- DRIVEWAY TO FRONT

£180,000

WALLACE CLOSE, NORTON CANES

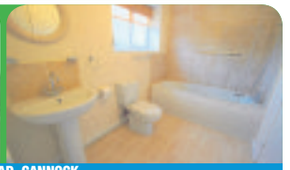
- THREE BED DETACHED
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- DUAL ASPECT LOUNGE / DINER
- CONSERVATORY
- GARAGE & DRIVEWAY
- FITTED KITCHEN
- REFITTED BATHROOM
- CLOSE TO AMENITIES

£165,000

STAFFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

- IMMACULATE SEMI DETACHED
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
- LARGE DETACHED GARAGE AT REAR
- LARGE REAR GARDEN
- LOUNGE & KITCHEN
- CLOSE TO CANNOCK TOWN CENTRE
- EN-SUITE OFF THE MASTER
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£160,000



REDHILL ROAD, CANNOCK

- DETACHED BUNGALOW
- FULLY DOUBLE GLAZED
- MODERN KITCHEN & BATHROOM
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- OPEN PLAN LIVING
- GATED DRIVEWAY
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM
- FREEHOLD & EPC C

£125,000

WOOTTONS COURT, CANNOCK

- CLOSE TO CANNOCK TOWN
- MODERN MID TERRACE
- ELECTRIC HEATING
- TWO BEDROOMS
- IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- IDEAL INVESTMENT RENTAL £550pcm

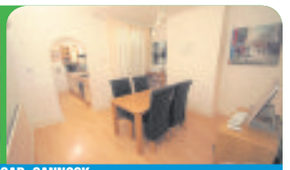
£117,995

WE HAVE SOLD SO MANY PROPERTIES...

...WE NOW URGENTLY REQUIRE MORE PROPERTIES TO SELL OR LET

SOLD Marwood homes

SOLD Marwood homes



HEDNEFORD ROAD, CANNOCK

- TRADITIONAL END TERRACE
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- UPSTAIRS BATHROOM
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- KITCHEN & UTILITY

£110,000

HARPERS COURT, HEATH HAYES

- IMMACULATE 2ND FLOOR APARTMENT
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE / DINER
- FITTED KITCHEN WITH APPLIANCES
- ALLOCATED PARKING
- VISITORS SPACES
- TWO BEDROOMS & NO UPWARD CHAIN
- MODERN BATHROOM

£115,000

LOVE LANE, RUGELEY

- ONE BEDROOM PARK HOME
- LOUNGE & KITCHEN
- QUIET CANAL SIDE LACATION
- SHOWER ROOM
- WALKING DISTANCE TO TOWN
- LPG GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- OFF ROAD PARKING SPACE

£37,500

Lomax Road, Hednesford

- Ground floor apartment
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Modern Style bathroom
- Double glazing & gas central heating
- Available now.

£495pcm Sorry no dss & no pets

Beecroft Court, Cannock

- Brand new apartments
- Open plan kitchen/lounge
- Bathroom with shower over bath
- Furnished/unfurnished available
- Allocated parking
- Selection of apartments available

Prices starting from £525.00pcm

Belt Road, Cannock

- Traditional semi detached
- Large lounge with woodburner
- Fitted kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Off road parking

£650pcm Sorry no pets and no DSS

Hilton Road, Featherstone

- Semi detached home
- Kitchen / diner
- Large lounge
- Three bedrooms
- Garage & parking
- Available March 2018

£675pcm Sorry no DSS & no pets

Coppice Lane, Cheslyn Hay

- Detached bungalow
- Large lounge
- Two double bedrooms
- Recently decorated throughout
- Driveway & Garage
- Available now

£695pcm Sorry no dss & no pets

Boney Hay Road, Burntwood

- Reception hall
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Garden

£695pcm Sorry no dss and No pets

rightmove w: marwoodhomes.com t: Cannock 01543 500 700 t: Stafford 01785 747 501 OnTheMarket

PAUL CARR
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings

Say Hello

Great Wyrley 01922 701001
185 Walsall Road, Great Wyrley WS6 6NL

Burntwood 01543 686444
1 Lichfield Road, Burntwood WS7 0HQ

paulcarrestateagents.co.uk

Burntwood Office - £525,000

LICHFIELD, TRENT VALLEY ROAD

- Extended detached residence
- Highly desirable location
- Conservatory
- Off road parking & garage

6 | 2 | D

Burntwood Office - £435,000

BURNTWOOD, ASHMOLE AVENUE

- Impressive detached residence
- Sought after residential location
- Immaculate decor throughout
- Off road parking & garage

4 | 2 | C

Burntwood Office - £425,000

HAMMERWICH, OVERTON LANE

- Impressive detached residence
- Superb semi-rural location
- Two receptions & breakfast kitchen
- Driveway parking & double garage

4 | 2 | C

Great Wyrley Office - £325,000

CHESLYN HAY, MOUNT PLEASANT

- Impressive self-build residence
- Immaculately presented interiors
- Three bedrooms with ensuites
- Viewing highly recommended

3 | 3 | C

Great Wyrley Office - £300,000

CHESLYN HAY, LITTLEWOOD ROAD

- Detached Period Cottage
- Sought After Location
- 3 Receptions
- Driveway

3 | 2 | D

Great Wyrley Office - £299,950

GREAT WYRLEY, LOVE LANE

- Superb detached bungalow
- Beautifully presented interiors
- Well appointed kitchen
- Impressive conservatory

3 | 1 | D

Burntwood Office - £270,000

BURNTWOOD, GARRICK RISE

- Detached family residence
- Through lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen & bathroom
- Cul-de-Sac location

4 | 1 | D

Great Wyrley Office - £265,000

GREAT WYRLEY, LOVE LANE

- Superb semi-detached house
- Highly desirable location
- Extended accommodation
- Further development possible (STP)

4 | 2 | D

Burntwood Office - £250,000

CHASE TERRACE, MORLEY ROAD

- Spacious dormer bungalow
- Prime residential location
- Open plan breakfast / diner
- Ample off road parking

4 | 1 | D

Burntwood Office - £250,000

LICHFIELD, BROADBENT CLOSE

- Modern style mid town house
- Three storey accommodation
- Kitchen / diner
- Off road parking & garage

3 | 2 | B

Great Wyrley Office - £99,950

BRIDGTOWN, UNION STREET

- End-terraced period property
- Ideal for FTB / investor
- Close to Cannock's amenities
- No onward chain

2 | 1 | D

Great Wyrley Office - £69,950

SUMMER HAYES, BRIDGNORTH

- Well presented maisonette
- Pleasant Cul-de-Sac location
- Enclosed rear garden
- Short lease - cash buyers only

2 | 1 | D

Free market appraisal | No sale, no let, no fee | Online floorplans | Property matching service | Free mortgage advice | Conveyancing service | Home surveys | Removal service

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on the move

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HEDNESFORD STREET, CANNOCK

- Plus £175 Utilities Charge
- One Bed GFF
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Allocated Parking
- Electric Heating
- Energy Rating F

£400 pcm

TOWER VIEW ROAD, GREAT WYRLEY

- Two Bed Flat
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- Bathroom, DG
- Electric Heating
- Energy Rating E
- NO DSS OR PETS

£470 pcm

CHAPEL SQUARE, CHESLYN HAY

- 2 Bed End
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Bathroom, DG
- Electric Heating
- Courtyard
- Energy Rating E
- NO DSS/PETS

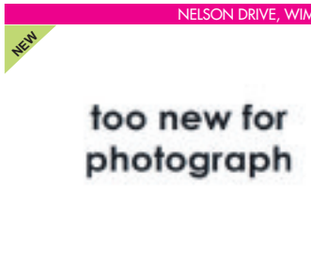
£530 pcm

HUNTINGTON TERRACE ROAD, CANNOC

- Three Bed Semi
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- GCH & DG
- Energy Rating E
- NO DSS OR PETS

£550 pcm

NELSON DRIVE, WIMBLEBURY



- Two Bed End
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Bathroom
- GCH & DG
- Rear Garden
- Allocated Parking
- Energy Rating E
- NO DSS/PETS

£575 pcm

WATERMINT CLOSE, WIMBLEBURY

- An extremely well presented four bedroom detached family home.
- Guest WC, lounge, dining room, conservatory
- Re-Fitted Kitchen & Utility
- Additional sitting room
- Four bedrooms, en-suite
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden & Ample Off Road Parking

OIRO £255,000

PARTRIDGE CLOSE, HUNTINGTON

- A well presented four bedroom detached family home
- Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room
- Family Room, Re-Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Four Good Sized Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted En-Suite & Family Bathroom
- Detached Garage & Ample Off

Offers in Excess of £250,000

TUTBURY CLOSE, HEATH HAYES

- An Extremely Well Presented Detached Bungalow positioned on a Corner Plot.
- Re-Fitted Kitchen, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Wet Room, Two Double Bedrooms
- Conservatory, Landscaped Rear Garden
- Ample Block Paved Driveway
- No Chain

OIRO £249,950

PYE GREEN ROAD, CANNOCK

- A Beautifully Presented Four Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Breakfast-Kitchen
- Impressive Extended Lounge/Diner
- Guest WC, Utility
- Four Good Bedrooms, Re-Fitted Shower Room
- Ample Driveway and Rear Garden

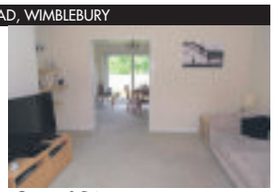
£230,000

JUNIPER CLOSE, HAZELSLADE

- An Extended Well Presented Detached House With Open Aspect to Rear
- Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Three Double Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Gardens
- Garage & Ample Parking
- Popular Village Location

£225,000

KNIGHTON ROAD, WIMBLEBURY



- A Well Presented Link Detached House
- Lounge. Dining Room
- Extended Kitchen, Four Bedrooms
- Re-Fitted Family Bathroom
- Garage & Driveway
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Open Aspect to Side & Rear
- No Upward Chain

£205,000

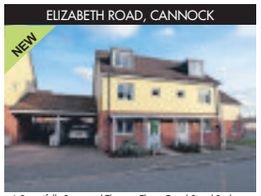
SELL YOUR HOME
FOR ONLY
£954 Inc VAT
NO SALE NO FEE
We go the extra mile

WRENS CROFT, HEATH HAYES

- A Well Presented Semi Detached House
- Popular Residential Location Overlooking Nature Reserve
- Guest WC, Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Three Bedrooms
- En-Suite, Family Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces
- Rear Garden

OIRO £189,950

ELIZABETH ROAD, CANNOCK



- A Beautifully Presented Three Storey Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Guest WC
- Modern Kitchen, Spacious Lounge/Diner
- Three Good Sized Bedrooms
- Two En-Suites, Family Bathroom
- Delightful Rear Garden
- Driveway & Car Barn

£179,995

COPPERKINS ROAD, HEDNESFORD

- A Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Porch, Spacious Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room
- Workshop
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Rear Garden & Gravel Parking to front

£149,995

WALNUT DRIVE, CANNOCK

- A well presented three ebdroom semi detached house
- GCH & D/G
- Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Garage, Carport & Driveway
- Front and Rear Gardens
- NO CHAIN

£150,000

ROWAN CLOSE, HUNTINGTON

- A Modern Well Presented Two Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Guest WC
- Kitchen, Spacious Lounge
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Delightful Rear Garden
- Two Parking Spaces

£140,000

GREIG COURT, HEATH HAYES

- A Well Presented Two Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Modern Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Modern Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces, Delightful Rear Garden

£129,950

UNION STREET, BRIDGTOWN

- Well presented ground floor apartment
- Lounge/Diner, 2 Double bedrooms
- Modern Kitchen
- En-suite & Bathroom
- Off road parking
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

OIEO £100,000

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NEW

Timbertops The Pingle Slitting Mill Rugeley

A Three/Four Bedroom Detached Dormer Bungalow

- Occupying pprox. quarter of an a acre plot
- Oil fuelled central heating
- Double Glazing
- Large Driveway
- Gardens with spectacular views

£410,000

NEW

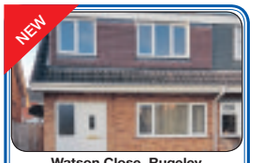
Tithebarn Road, Rugeley

A Three Bedroom Semi-Detached House

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Bathroom
- Ground Floor WC / Utility
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Driveway & Attached Garage

£169,950

NEW



Watson Close, Rugeley

A 3 Bedroom semi-detached House

- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- 3 Bedrooms
- Kitchen, Bathroom
- Front and rear enclosed gardens

£139,950

Burnthill Lane Rugeley

A Four Bedroom Executive Detached House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Conservatory
- Dining Room
- Integral Garage

£245,000

More Properties URGENTLY REQUIRED Rugeley and Surrounding Areas

REDUCED

Ti-Arwil, Keystone Lane, Rugeley

Trtaditional 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House

- Part Double Glazed
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens & Driveway Parking
- Single Car Garage & Outside W.C

£163,000

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TO LET

Lower Brook Street Rugeley

An unfurnished three bedroom apartment

- Gas central heating
- Situated over two floors
- No smoking
- No housing benefit
- No pets
- FEES APPLY

£550 PCM

APPLICATION RECEIVED

Winstanley Place, Rugeley

A 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace House

- Gas Central Heating
- Part Double Glazing
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Rear gated access

£550 PCM

TO LET

Fernwood Drive Rugeley

A Two Bedroom End Terrace House

- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Ground Floor WC
- Allocated Car Parking Space
- Fully Enclosed Rear Garden

£525PCM

TO LET

Hednesford Road - Commercial Property

A Ground Floor Retail Unit

- Main Road Frontage
- Total retail floor area 33.5sqm
- Kitchenette
- Toilet
- Subsidiary area to rear

£7250PA

TO LET

Keystone Mews, Rugeley

A 1 Bedroom 1st Floor Apartment

- Lounge
- Bathroom
- Kitchen
- Close to town centre
- Parking Space

£425PCM

TO LET

Sheep Fair, Rugeley

A 1 Bedroom 2nd Floor Flat

- Town Centre Location
- Lounge
- Kitchenette
- Bedroom with built in wardrobe
- Bathroom

£400 PCM

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CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

NEW

- Two bedroom Terraced
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Off road parking, gargae
- Town centre location
- Rear Garden
- EPC rating E

£135,000

CANNOCK
BRUNSWICK ROAD

NEW

- A well presented 3 bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge
- kitchen/diner, dining room
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£145,000

HEDNESFORD
GREENHEATH ROAD

NEW

- Fully renovated three bed
- Two reception rooms
- Breakfast kitchen with dining
- Utility/Guest WC
- Family bathroom
- En-suite Shower room
- Driveway, garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£224,950

HEATH HAYES
DENBURY CLOSE

- A four bedroom semi detaced house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Driveway
- EPC rating E

£172,000

CHESLYN HAY
SWAN CLOSE

- A three bedroom semi detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen/diner
- Conservatory
- Master bedroom with built in wardrobes
- Two further bedrooms
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Driveway

£179,950

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

- A traditional two bedroom property
- Lounge, dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted first floor bathroom
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Garden to rear
- Viewing recommended
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating G

£129,950

HEATH HAYES
CANNOCK ROAD

- A traditional 3 bedroom property
- Entrance hallway/study area
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen/diner
- Utility, Guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Refitttted family bathroom
- Garden to rear off road parking
- EPC rating E

£260,000

CANNOCK
RUMER HILL ROAD

- A spacious 3 bedroom detached
- Split level lounge/diner, Kitchen/diner
- Guest cloakroom, utility
- Sitting room and conservatory
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear, garage, driveway
- NO CHAIN
- Awaiting EPC rating

£230,000 Offers Over

CANNOCK
ST AIDANS ROAD

- A two bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen/diner
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Garden to front
- Corner plot
- Enclosed rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£124,950

HEATH HAYES
SALISBURY DRIVE

- A three bedroom detached house
- Gas central heating and doubel glazing
- Entrance hallway
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Garage, gardens, driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£235,950

HEDNESFORD
CHAFFINCH CLOSE

- A two bedroom semi detached bungalow
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted shower room
- Conservatory, carport
- Garden to rear and side
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£169,950

CANNOCK
BERWICK DRIVE

- A three bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating
- Lounge/diner
- Conservatory, kitchen
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Refitted shower room
- Good sized rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£129,950

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NEW

CANNOCK
PYE GREEN ROAD

- Extended Detached
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Guests WC, Utility
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Bed 1 with Dressing Room
- 4 Bedrooms
- Refitted Shower Room
- Driveway
- Viewing Recommended

£230,000

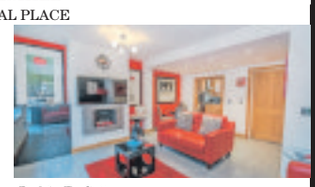
NEW

HEATH HAYES
MEADOW WAY

- Detached Home
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Garage
- Driveway

£230,000

SHARESHILL
HAVERGAL PLACE

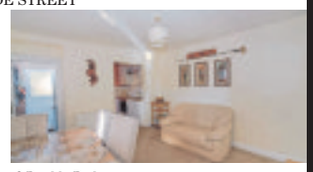


- Modern Town House
- Rural Location
- Guests WC
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Bed 1 - En-Suite
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Under-Floor Heating

£230,000

NEW

HEDNESFORD
MOUNTSIDE STREET

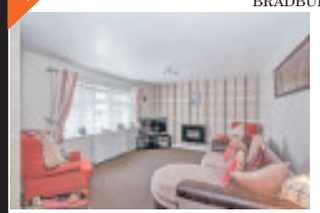
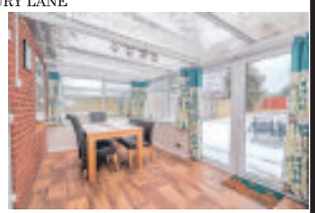


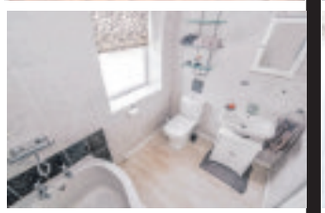
- Traditional Semi
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Refitted Kitchen
- Utility Room
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden

£119,950

NEW

HEDNESFORD
BRADBURY LANE

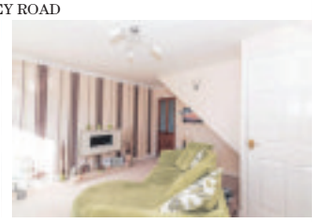
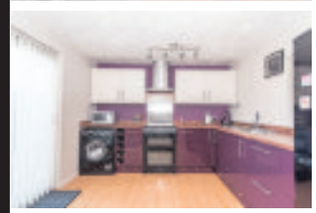


- Family Home
- Close to Cannock Chase
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Conservatory
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden

£160,000

NEW

NORTON CANES
HUSSEY ROAD

- Modern Semi
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Viewing Essential

£150,000

GREAT WYRLEY
WALSALL ROAD

- Stunning Period Property
- Generous Parking to Rear
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Snug, Study
- Orangery, Sun Room
- 5 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Viewing Essential

£300,000

REDUCED

SHARESHILL
SCHOOL LANE

- Outstanding Detached
- Hall, Lounge
- Bespoke Kitchen/Diner
- Utilty Room
- 2 Family Bathrooms
- 4 Bedrooms, Dressing Room
- Integral Garage
- Driveway

£360,000

"Service you expect from the Agent that delivers"

Extended detached is beautifully presented

RUGELEY
£340,000 <<<

This beautifully presented five-bedroomed home in Hednesford Road, Rugeley is extended and close to all amenities.

It is for sale through JR Distinctive Homes at £340,000.

It has a porch, an entrance hallway, two reception rooms, a breakfast kitchen, a utility and a guest WC.

Upstairs is a landing to the master bedroom with an en-suite, four further bedrooms and a bathroom. Outside is a block paved driveway for several vehicles to the double garage.

The front of the property is enclosed by a wall, having decorative wrought iron gates.

The garage number two/ workshop is fitted with a range of a combination boiler, and has light and power.

Contact JR Distinctive Homes on 01889 577731.

Attractive one-bed flat is very spacious

WIMBLEBURY
£65,000

This attractively presented and spacious one-bedroomed first floor flat in Hamilton Close, Wimblebury, is for sale through Keable Webbs at £65,000.

An ideal first home or investment buy, the property has an entrance hallway, a lounge, kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. It also benefits from parking, a spacious insulated loft and double glazing.

The entrance hallway leads to the first floor. The lounge/diner has carpeted flooring, windows to the front, a storage cupboard and is open plan to the kitchen. The kitchen area has a built-in electric cooker with an extractor hood and an electric hob.

For further information contact Keable Homes on 01543 468847.

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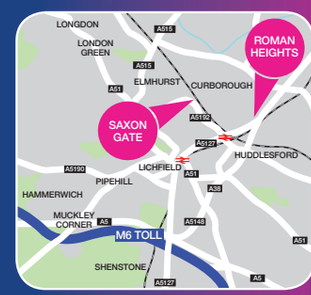

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Quality, technology and capability

By James Parker

The new Ford EcoSport compact sports utility vehicle (SUV) delivers enhanced versatility and capability, more refined styling and sophisticated technologies for customers in Europe.

The new Ford EcoSport for the first time offers Ford Intelligent All Wheel Drive technology for improved traction on-and off-road, combined with an advanced new 1.5-litre EcoBlue diesel engine, delivering up to 125 PS and optimised CO2 emissions.

Also available for the first time as a sporty, Ford Performance-inspired EcoSport ST-Line model, the new Ford EcoSport delivers driver assistance technologies including SYNC 3 connectivity, Cruise Control with Adjustable Speed Limiter and Rear View Camera.

Featuring enhanced dynamic, rugged and refined exterior styling, the model is offered in 12 bold colours and offers even more personalisation options – including contrasting painted roof colour that extend to the window pillars, upper door frames, rear roof spoiler and door mirrors. A user-centric, upscale new interior offers a superior occupant experience with floating central 8-inch touchscreen, heated steering wheel and smart stowage solutions including an adjustable boot floor.

"Ford has sold more than 166,000 EcoSport compact SUVs in Europe since we first introduced the model to the region in 2014, and last year sales grew 40 per cent," said Steven Armstrong, group vice president and president, Europe Middle East and Africa, Ford Motor Company. "The new Ford EcoSport offers customers even more style, comfort, capability and choice – blending rugged SUV functionality with city car practicality."

The SUV segment is the fastest growing in Europe.

The new Ford EcoSport will deliver an optimised driving experience equipped with Ford Intelligent All Wheel Drive from mid-2018. The technology will be offered in combination with the all-new 1.5-litre Ford EcoBlue diesel engine and a six-speed manual gearbox, delivering 125 PS and 300 Nm of torque.

The new Ford EcoSport features bold Ford SUV styling

Intelligent All Wheel Drive measures how the car's wheels are gripping the road surface and can adjust torque delivery up to 50/50 between the front and rear wheels in under 20 milliseconds – 20 times quicker than it takes to blink. The system seamlessly transitions torque between all four wheels and provides a more secure footing on the road especially in slippery conditions.

The new Ford EcoSport features bold Ford SUV styling, reflecting that the Kuga and Edge. EcoSport now also delivers a new level of interior refinement which includes easier to use controls and soft-touch materials, and a new centre console ergonomically designed for easy operation and featuring fewer buttons.

The new EcoSport line-up will for the first time include the sporty new EcoSport ST-Line variant, joining the Edge ST-Line, Fiesta ST-Line, Focus ST-Line, Kuga ST-Line, Mondeo ST-Line and S-MAX ST-Line models that offer bold styling and sports-tuned driving dynamics alongside powerful and efficient EcoBoost petrol and TDCi diesel engines.

Ford's sophisticated SYNC 3 communications and entertainment system is compatible with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto™. SYNC 3 is supported by EcoSport's floating, 8-inch colour touchscreen, which can be operated with pinch and swipe gestures. Also offered with SYNC 3 is a floating 6.5-inch colour touchscreen. A 4.2-inch colour screen is offered in combination with Bluetooth connectivity and two USB inputs.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the New Ford EcoSport range: urban 39.2-62.7 (7.2-4.5), extra urban 56.4-74.3 (5.0-3.8), combined 48.7-68.8 (5.8-4.1). Official CO2 emissions 134-107g/km. The mpg figures quoted, sourced from official EU-regulated test results (EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008), are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience. *Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Freepost Ford Credit. Terms and conditions apply, please ask for full details. Vehicles shown for illustration purposes only. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. Cars must be registered by 31-3-2018. Information correct at time of publication E&OE.

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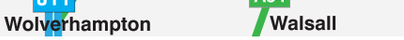

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Peugeot's all-new family car, the 508, is revealed

The all-new Peugeot 508 has been revealed, replacing the old saloon with a five-door 'fastback' version.

In a segment that's struggling against the popularity of SUVs, the 508 hopes to tempt buyers with coupe-like styling and five-door practicality. The 487-litre boot is slightly bigger than the old model but considerably less than some rivals' offerings, such as the 586 litres available in the boot of a Volkswagen Passat.

There's a fresh look for the 508

Design

On the outside, there's a fresh look for the 508, which gets a sharp interpretation of Peugeot's familiar design language. There are hints of the stunning shooting brake concept the firm took to the Geneva Motor Show last year, with similar vertical LED daytime running lights, narrow headlights, and LED ear lights integrated into a black bar that runs the width of the car.

Inside, the mix of a premium feel and funky, modern design that's become a hallmark of modern Peugeots is present and correct. The new 508 gets the company's latest i-Cockpit features, including a leather-trimmed steering wheel, 10-inch capacitive touchscreen in the centre console, and 12.3-inch instrument panel.

Night vision is a newly added driver assistance feature, which is displayed in the instrument binnacle to highlight pedestrians and other obstacles when driving at night or in poor visibility.

Jean-Philippe Imparato, chief executive of Peugeot, said: "The all-new Peugeot 508 is finally here.

"After the success of our latest high-profile launches and our SUV offensive with the multi-award-winning Peugeot 2008 SUV, 3008 SUV and all-new 5008 SUV, with the all-new Peugeot 508 we carry the exact same ambition: to shake up the market with an outstanding new car that can compete with the best.

"And for the D-segment we are talking about the best car manufacturers in the world. The all-new Peugeot 508 is a perfect example of the ambition that we embody in everything that we do, continuing to establish Peugeot as the best 'high-end generalist' car manufacturer in the market."

Pricing has yet to be revealed, but expect the entry-level model to start at about £26,000 – a fraction more than the outgoing model.

The new Peugeot 508 madeits public debut at the Geneva Motor Show this week and will be available to order from the summer.

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Arona is excellent value-for-money

By Carmel Stewart

SEAT has the distinction of being a manufacturer which attracts younger buyers than most but, with the Leon Cupra and Ibiza models in its line-up, that is hardly surprising.

Its move into the SUV segment will probably up the average a little but it is a step that needed to be taken. While new car buying overall is down by about six per cent, in the SUV sector it is up 11 per cent overall. In addition, SEAT already has the highly successful, award-winning Ateca out on the roads strutting its excellent stuff, so a smaller SUV was inevitable.

Called the Arona, it is designed and built in Barcelona and, while it has all the appearance of a sleek soft-roader, it is, in fact front-wheel-drive only.

Priced from £16,555, it is available in no less than eight trims, which seems excessive, even for a manufacturer which is currently encouraging everyone to 'do your own thing'.

But there is method in this madness. Through umpteen market research Q&A sessions, SEAT discovered that many customers find multiple options lists off putting – so for the Arona they have done away with them.

Instead, every trim is pre-loaded with everything customers have asked for. This not only takes the hassle out of buying but also ups the residual value as the entire spec list is included in the price. About the only thing not included is a spare wheel which I would opt for every time but a quick straw poll among my colleagues put me in the lonesome minority.

At entry-level SE, the spec includes 17-inch alloys, metallic paint, bi-colour roof, LED day time running lights, cruise control, hill hold, tiredness recognition, air con, automatic headlights and a five-inch colour touchscreen plus radio (not DAB) and four speakers.

A step up to SE Tech will bag you all that plus rear parking sensors, sat nav, Android Auto and Apple CarPlay connectivity, a wireless charger and a CD player. That last item will have younger drivers looking bewildered but, for anyone over 40 it may well cause a whoop of delight as all those dust covered CDs can be brought down from the attic and loaded into the car for a nostalgic singalong.

Combination

Engine choices are equally extensive with five on offer as well as five and six-speed manual gearboxes plus a seven-speed DSG auto.

The combination of engine/transmission is linked to the trim selected. If, for example, your power pack of choice is the 1.0 litre, 115ps petrol unit then your trim starting point will be FR because it is not available on SE, SE Technology or SE Technology First Edition trims.

On the other hand, you can get the 1.0litre 95ps petrol with those three but not with any other.

If economy is top of your list, then the 1.6litre 95ps diesel is the clear winner with official fuel consumption averaging 70.6mpg and CO2 emissions puthering out at the rate of 105g/km.

If petrol is preferred, the 1.0litre 115ps linked to the excellent DSG transmission will be top choice. Not only will it return up to an average of 57.6mpg with CO2 emitting at the rate of 114g/km but it is also super smooth on the road, with plenty of power in all the right places.

The Arona is easy handling and gives a comfortable ride

If you are looking for a sportier drive, give the FR a whirl. Not a hot hatch but certainly a warm performer, it is available with the 1.0 litre 115ps and 1.5litre 150ps petrol engines or 1.6litre diesel, plus six-speed manual or seven-speed automatic transmissions. The set-up includes four different driving modes – normal, sport, eco and individual. Depending on driver preference, the steering parameters and throttle response will be fractionally adjusted.

Whatever your choice, with its easy handling, comfortable ride, competitive staring price and all-inclusive comprehensive spec lists, the Arona represents an excellent value-for-money purchase.

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Shropshire

KITCHING
Leonard
(Len)

Betty and Family wish to thank everyone for their kindness and the many messages of sympathy received following their recent bereavement.

Thanks to all who attended the Funeral and for the very generous donations, amounting to £402. This has been divided between Alzheimer's UK and The RNIB.

Gratefully thanks to Landona House, Wem for the loving care given to Len.

Special thanks to Reverend Chris Mason for conducting a lovely Service and to Reverend Jan Brittle for the Gospel reading, also to Helen for reading a Dylan Thomas poem.

Finally thanks to Jen (Grindalls of Wem) and Mike Painter for the guidance, kindness and professionalism.

BARNETT
John

Wife Glenys and Family would like to thank everyone for their kind words and support following the sad death of John.

It was comforting to see so many Family and Friends gathering to Celebrate the Life of John.

Special thanks to Revd. Morris Price.

Thank you all for the beautiful flowers and also the donations for Dementia and M.S. totalling £800.

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Deaths

BAKER
William Ernest

Passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 24, 2018, aged 91 years.

William was much loved and will be missed dearly by all his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at Stafford Crematorium at 2pm.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired to be shared between RNLI and Children with Cancer UK.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DH
01543 502322

BEVAN
Frank Rowley
Aged 92 years.
BEVAN
Gladys
Aged 89 years.

Both sadly passed away, Frank on February 3, 2018 and Gladys on February 20, 2018.

Lifelong Partners.

All inquiries to
Co-operative Funeralcare
49 Park Road
Cannock
01543 572644

CROWSLEY
Raymond

Sadly passed away Saturday, February 24, 2018, aged 82 years.

Raymond was much loved and will be dearly missed by all his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 10am at St Marks Church, Great Wyrley, followed by a Burial at Strawberry Lane.

Family flowers only please.

Donations if so desired, for St Giles Hospice

All inquiries c/o

A J Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
67 Station Street, Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG
01922 410612

FLANNIGAN
Hugh McDermott

Passed away peacefully, surrounded by his Family, on February 23, 2018, aged 73 years.

Loving Husband of Sue and Father to Dawn and Lisa.

Funeral Service to take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Friday, March 23, 2018, at 11.30am.

Family flowers only please, with donations, if desired, going to St Giles Hospice.

These can be sent c/o
PHILLIP EMERY
Funeral Directors
Bedford House
15 Bow Street
Rugeley
WS15 2BT
01889 582274

JONES
Kath
Of Great Wyrley.

Passed away in hospital on February 18, 2018, aged 92 years.

A beloved Mom, Nan and Great-Nan.

The Funeral Service will take place on Monday, March 12, 2018 at Bushbury Crematorium, East Chapel at 2.30pm.

Family flowers only please. Donations if so desired for The Air Ambulance.

All inquiries to
HALLIWELL
Funeral Service
164 Walsall Road
Great Wyrley
WS6 6NQ
Telephone 01922 419090.

SMITH
Roger James

Sadly passed away Wednesday, February 14, 2018, aged 78 years.

Roger was much loved and will be dearly missed by all his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will be held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018, 11.15am at St Marks Church, Great Wyrley followed by a Burial at Strawberry Lane Cemetery, Cheslyn Hay.

Flowers welcome.

All further inquiries to

A J Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
67 Station Street, Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG
01922 410612

SMITH
Roger
Husband

Those lonely hours without you, I can't believe you're gone. That God could have taken you away, my life my world was with you.

Your Loving Wife Gloria.

X X X

Dad

A golden heart stopped beating hard working hands at rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best.

Sadly missed, never forgotten.

Your loving Daughter Lisa.

X X X

Grandad

With your passing I have lost my sunshine, I will always remember you, I will forever miss you.

You loving Grandson Ashley.

X X X

WOOD
Elsa Lillian
nee Hall

Passed away peacefully in North Staffordshire Hospital on February 11, 2018, aged 75 years.

Will be sadly missed by Husband Alan. Daughter Michelle and Husband Paul, Son Andrew and Wife Vanessa, Grandchildren Richard, Laura, Mathew, Charlotte and Sophie and all that knew her.

The Funeral Service will be at Stafford Crematorium on Monday, March 12 at 2pm, later at The Knot and Plough, Weston Road.

Donations if desired to Staffordshire Air Ambulance and Katherine House Hospice, Stafford.

WORLEY
Patricia Elizabeth

Passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 24, 2018, aged 71 years.

Much loved and very sadly missed by all her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service is to be held on Thursday, March 15, at 10.30am at Streetly Crematorium, West Chapel.

All flowers welcome. Donations, if preferred, can be made for the County Air Ambulance.

All inquiries c/o

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Family Funeral Directors
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9 Local Information

Public Notices

THE COUNCIL IS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING PROPOSALS

Cannock Chase COUNCIL

Case Officer – Audrey Lewis

Location: Land west of Pye Green Road

CH/18/080 - Reserved Matters application for phases 2 and 3 comprising 481 dwellings with associated access (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for approval) pursuant to outline planning permission CH/11/0395

All applications may be inspected electronically at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.

Applications relating to Rugeley and Brereton may also be inspected by paper file at the Rugeley Area Housing Office, Anson Street, Rugeley.

The Council has published a Service Charter for publicity and information about planning applications and a Code of Conduct for the Planning Process both of which are obtainable from Council Offices free of charge.

If you wish to make comments or representations about any of the above proposals you should do so in writing to the Planning Services Manager, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG or by emailing to developmentcontrol@cannockchasedc.gov.uk by 29/03/2018 Please include a daytime telephone number in your reply and quote the appropriate reference when calling or writing.

tel 01543 462621 www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER SECTION 17 OF LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made to: Cannock Chase District Council

By: Rugeley Progressive Working Men's Club

For: Mansefield House 40 Market Street Rugeley WS15 2JL

To allow the following licensable activities at the above named premises:

1. Sale of alcohol	
a. Sunday to Thursday	10.00 to 24.00
b. Friday and Saturday	10.00 to 01.00
2. Live music	
a. Sunday to Thursday	12.00 to 24.00
b. Friday and Saturday	12.00 to 01.00
3. Performance of dance	10.00 to 24.00 daily
4. Recorded music	
a. Sunday to Thursday	10.00 to 24.00
b. Friday and Saturday	10.00 to 01.00
5. Late night refreshment	
a. Sunday to Thursday	23.00 to 24.00
b. Friday and Saturday	23.00 to 01.00
6. Anything of a similar description	
a. Sunday to Thursday	10.00 to 24.00
b. Friday and Saturday	10.00 to 01.00
7. Plays and films	13.00 to 23.00 daily
8. Indoor sporting events	12.00 to 24.00 daily
9. Boxing and wrestling	12.00 to 24.00 daily

The opening hours of the premises are to be the same as those for late night refreshments.

A full version of this application can be viewed at The Licensing Unit, Cannock Chase District Council, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.

Representations should be made in writing within **28 days** of the date of the publication of this notice, to;

The Head of Environmental Health, Cannock Chase District Council, Civic Centre, PO Box 28, Beecroft Road, Cannock. WS11 1BG.
email: licensingunit@cannockchasedc.gov.uk
Phone: 01543 462621
Fax: 01543 464489

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is not exceeding £5000.

27 February 2018

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED)
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991
DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC
A34 WALSALL ROAD, CANNOCK

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council on 6 March 2018 made an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of A34 Walsall Road in Cannock from the A5 J A34/A460 roundabout to back of Bridge Court unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works; or is being used for police, fire brigade or ambulance purposes. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

An alternative route for traffic is available via A5 J A34/A460 Roundabout, A460 Eastern Way, A5190 Lichfield Road, A4601 Hednesford Road, A4601 Church Street, A34 From Church Street Rbt To Walsall Road, A34 Mill Street, A34 Walsall Road and vice versa. For more information, visit: https://roadworks.org?tm=104315490.

The order will come into operation from 20:00 hours on 9 March 2018 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 06:00 hours on 10 March 2018.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months, or until the chevron and chord marking replacement works undertaken by Doocey Traffic Management, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director for Strategy, Governance & Change, No. 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford. ST16 2DH

Ref: 4096610; Enquiries: Doocey Traffic Management
Tel: 0330 9000 365
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders
http://roadworks.org

Date: 8 March 2018

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER SECTION 17 OF LICENSING ACT 2003

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By: Rugeley Progressive Working Men's Club

For: Mansefield House 40 Market Street Rugeley WS15 2JL

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4. Recorded music	
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5. Late night refreshment	
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6. Anything of a similar description	
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email: licensingunit@cannockchasedc.gov.uk
Phone: 01543 462621
Fax: 01543 464489

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is not exceeding £5000.

27 February 2018

FRANK TAYLOR
(Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 114 Hatherton Road Cannock West Midlands WS11 1HH, who died on 31/10/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before two months and one day from the date of this publication, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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PO Box 5005 Lancing BN99 8AZ TS24584

MICHAEL DAVID DENNISON
(Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 23 Leveson Avenue Cheslyn Hay Staffordshire WS6 7BN, who died on 16/06/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 18/05/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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Lurke Street Bedford MK40 3HU TS24361

NORA MARY KIRK
(Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Lakeside Nursing Home Stafford Road Great Wyrley Walsall WS6 6BA formerly of Yew Tree Cottage Great Saredon Shareshill Wolverhampton WV10 7LN, who died on 28/12/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 18/05/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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10 Personals

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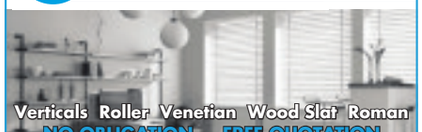
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Back-to-back Sunday games for Baggies

ALBION are scheduled to play back-to-back Sunday games in April after two of their fixtures were moved to be broadcast live on Sky Sports.

The Baggies' trip to Old Trafford to face Manchester United is now at 4pm on Sunday, April 15, while the home game against Liverpool a week later is scheduled for 2.15pm on Sunday, April 22.

However, if Liverpool reach the semi-finals of the Champions League that match may have to be moved again.

Those two games represent the start of a difficult run-in for the Baggies. There will only be 12 points to play for after the United game and nine points available after the Liverpool game.

Meanwhile, Villa's trip to Norwich City on Saturday April 7 has been moved forward – just 24 hours after being moved back. Sky had moved the game from 3pm to a 5.30pm kick-off. However, it has now been rescheduled again and will kick-off at 12.30pm. The decision was made to accommodate Manchester City versus Manchester United at 5.30pm.

Deals hampered by sell-on clause – Troy

EX-WALSALL forward Troy Deeney admits the sell-on clause negotiated by Saddlers when he joined Watford has become a transfer 'sticking point'.

The 29-year-old striker was a £16million target for Albion in January, before the Baggies opted to sign Daniel Sturridge on loan from Liverpool.

Walsall would receive 20 per cent of any profit above the £500,000 they sold Deeney to the Hornets for in 2010 – and the forward believes it has put potential suitors off.

"There's times where it has become a sticking point," said Deeney. "People go like 'We're going to pay X amount of money' but then Watford say 'We've got to give X amount to Walsall'. There's been times where I've tried to speak to (Saddlers chairman) Jeff Bonser and try to, you know, be sensible.

"But I understand a million per cent from his point of view, he's like 'We asked for this, this is what we're getting'. It's just business at the end of the day but I think that ship is long sailed now."

Online service just the ticket for fans

WOLVERHAMPTON Speedway have launched a new online ticket service for supporters ahead of the 2018 season. Supporters can now purchase tickets for home meetings in advance using wolverhamptonspeedway.co/boxoffice

The service is operated in conjunction with ticketarena.co.uk

The move gives fans added convenience and will speed entry up on arrival at the turnstiles as the Parrys International Wolves battle for SGB Premiership glory. Opening night at Monmore is on Monday March 26 against a powerhouse Poole side.

Press and practice is open to the public from 6.30 on Monday March 19 with the popular pre-season talk-in at the Cleveland Arms the following night.

Club legends Peter Karlsson and Mikael Max were set to fly in from Sweden for a special 'Wolves Brothers' show at the Cleveland Arms on Sunday, but have rescheduled for July 19.

Geoff celebrates scoring against Portsmouth August 20, 2005

Geoff in 2009, with the famous back page of THAT season, at the Hawthorns

Geoff's on target with charity to help homeless

HIS football career started out playing on the streets – now Geoff Horsfield is helping people get off the streets with his charity venture.

After his retirement the Baggies hero has made it his goal to help those in need across the West Midlands.

His charity the Geoff Horsfield Foundation, which was set up in 2016, provides 'quality, safe and secure supported accommodation' for vulnerable adults in the region.

It marks the latest step in a less than conventional career, which saw Geoff start as a bricklayer and toil in the lower leagues before making it big.

Geoff, now aged 44, also successfully battled testicular cancer in 2008 – defying doctors who predicted the disease would end his career.

The striker was certainly no ordinary footballer.

And after hanging up his boots in 2013, Geoff has continued to prove he is an extraordinary man by focusing on charitable enterprises.

Epidemic

Now he is aiming to help tackle homeless in the West Midlands, and has returned to the bricklaying skills he learned before hitting the footballing big time.

The star personally renovates homes before new tenants – often from the streets – are moved in.

Geoff, who lives in Sutton Coldfield, said: "Homelessness around the country has become an epidemic.

"We're in 2018 and we've got cars that can park themselves but we've still got homeless people in the streets. If we can't help them there's something wrong.

"My aim is to get people off the streets and get them back into normality and normal society. We try to help them as much as possible.

"I thought with my name and the people I know I could help these people, and it's fantastic that people are coming forward and trying to help.

"Football makes the world go round."

The foundation's work also involves providing basic essentials such as food, clothes and sanitary towels for women. Much of this relies on donations, often from football fans far and wide that put their allegiances to one side.

"The generosity is overwhelming, it's been incredible," Geoff continued.

"There's more going on in the world than the badge on the shirt.

"It's nice that we can forget about the football. They have been absolutely fantastic, all the fans."

Geoff's footballing journey began in modest surroundings in his native Barnsley and he combined his playing with work as a bricklayer – a trade he has returned to through his charity work, renovating accommodation before tenants move in.

Looking back on his earliest footballing memories, Geoff said: "I was playing on the streets. I just naturally scored goals, 10 or 11 a game. I played Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and it just took off.

"I was bricklaying and playing in the local leagues. My dad took me there to toughen me up a bit.

"All the lads I played with were 10 years older than me and they all had trades and offered me an apprenticeship with them. It set me in good stead for later life."

Geoff was Albion's top scorer when the Baggies were promoted to the Premier League at the end of the 2003/4 campaign – and they could probably do with his goals now as they battle relegation.

His career at the club peaked when he scored one of the most famous goals in their history to help preserve their top-flight status on the final day of the 2004/05 season. "Coming on and scoring that goal, I think that's got to be one of the highlights of my career alongside getting promotion under Gary Megson," he said.

In 2008 Geoff overcame testicular cancer and shortly afterwards resumed his professional career, a testament to his strength of character.

He admits helping the homeless is a million miles away from his career on the pitch.

"It is hugely different, but I wouldn't stop it for the world. I still watch out for my old teams but what I'm doing now is a full-time job," Geoff said.

"It's totally different from football, it makes me realise how lucky I was to be a professional football player."

He also moved to defend his peers, who can be accused of doing little to help others.

Fundraiser

Geoff said: "I don't know if that [accusation] is true. There are a lot of footballers who do it and don't publicise it. I publicise it to raise awareness of people being homeless.

"I think footballers are tarred with the wrong brush at times, a lot of them do good."

A charity night which is coming up soon will help raise funds for Geoff's Foundation.

As well as Albion fan and British middleweight champion Tommy Langford, some of Geoff's former Baggies team mates, including Darren Moore and Paul Robinson, are planning to attend the fundraiser.

"We've always kept close, I'll do anything for them and they'll do anything for me," he said. "We're trying to raise as much money as we can; it really will be a good night."

The event is at Birmingham's Botanical Gardens on Friday, March 23. Entertainment includes live music and a DJ, a drag artist, and a comedienne.

An auction taking place on the night includes a match day box at the Hawthorns, worth £4,000.

Tickets are available through online ticketing outlet Eventbrite and are priced at £65 per person plus booking fees, with VIP options also available.

Meanwhile donations can also be made to the Geoff Horsfield Foundation at JustGiving.com.

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Fixture plea as Sporting face backlog

WOLVERHAMPTON Sporting boss Andy Paddock has urged the West Midlands League to look at the way fixtures are scheduled as he faces up to a hectic end to the season.

Title-chasing Sporting, who play at Pride park, Great Wyrley, still have 17 Premier Division games left and are also in the hunt for the Staffs Senior Vase, the League Cup and the JW Hunt Cup.

The league have extended the season by a week to May 5 to help cope with the backlog but Paddock believes more midweek games should be played earlier in the season.

Sporting, nine points behind leaders Malvern but with seven games in hand, were due to play Wolverhampton Casuals on Tuesday.

Paddock said: "We are desperate to get the game played because of the backlog we face. The league have added an extra week on to the season to May 5 but we are going to struggle to get the games in.

"I'm disappointed that the league don't play more midweek fixtures earlier in the season. I think that is something that needs looking at.

"If you look at our fixtures at the beginning of the season, it's very rare we played in midweek.

"The weather was fine and our pitch was fine. It just needs somebody to put a bit of authority on and say you have to play these games now."

Paddock has bolstered his squad to help cope with the mounting fixture list. Jamal Fuller has returned to the club from Black Country Rangers having left Sporting in the summer.

Another Sporting old-boy, Ray Facey, has joined from Casuals while striker Nehemia Zazi arrives from Dudley Sports.

In-form outfit to provide tough test after postponement

BURNTWOOD Rugby Club's fixture at home to Harborne went the way of all other fixtures in Midlands 3 West North – postponed due to a frozen, snow covered pitch.

Burntwood return to action this Saturday with a trip to Shrewsbury. The hosts are now one of the form teams in the league following a slow start to the season so it should prove a tough test for the league leaders.

The 2nd XV welcome Shrewsbury 2nds to The Sportsway for a Staffs Reserve League fixture. All kick-offs now revert to 3pm.

On March 24, when Stafford are the visitors, Burntwood RUFC hosts its second Patrons' Day of the season.

It features a pre-match meal plus a curtain-raiser between Burntwood under-12s and Darlington under-12s who are visiting Staffordshire on a weekend tour. There will also be live entertainment in the clubhouse afterwards.

Quality line-up for popular bowls contest

A TOP quality field will line up when Chadsmoor Progressive WMC again hosts the popular Easter Monday £2,000 Invitation on April 2.

With the untimely passing of Mel Evans in 2017, this, the 38th consecutive year, sees the event re-named The Les & Mel Evans MBA Memorial Classic. It gets under way at 10.30am.

Total prize money is £2,000, thanks to sponsors including Lynn Pritchatt, Bob Horrocks, Verite, Osprey Water Management Systems, Hillside Developments, Media Access Solutions and Thurstons. The quality line-up includes many of the game's top players including title holder Greg Smith, Champion of Champions winner Michael Beer and the Fleetwood Festival and Brighouse Champion Callum Wraight.

The eventual winner will receive the £500 first prize.

Competition draw: David May v Michael Beer; Scott Simpson v Chris Ward; Darren Plenderleith v Stuart Rutter; Pete Farmer v Tommy Johnstone; Colin Beaman v Rory Rollason; Tom Pritchard v Leighton Roberts; Gary Owen v Anthony Bracken; Phil Lee v Ross Meese; Glynn Storer v Wayne Rogers; Jamie Bramley v Darrell Handley; Greg Smith v Paul Evans; David East v Ben Percival; Callum Wraight v Nathan Dawes; Chris Brown v Elliot McGuinness; Gordon Hawkins v Paul Bailey; Andy Thornton v Gareth Herbert

CRUNCH TIME IN BIG APPLE

A PAIR of world champion kickboxing brothers from Cannock are aiming to take a bite out of the Big Apple next month.

Twin sensations Owen and Zac Evans have already proved themselves among the top fighters in the UK thanks to a string of impressive performances in the ring.

But now they have their sights set across the Atlantic and the chance to take on some of the best kickboxers on the planet. The 20-year-olds have been invited to fight at an event organised by five-time world champion Bobby Campbell's Jackhammer Promotions in New York on April 14.

Owen said: "We've fought in France and Portugal before now but this is a big step up for us and we are really excited about it.

"New York is a bit of a spiritual home for kickboxing. It is a hugely popular sport over there and the attention it gets from the media is huge.

Challenge

"To be honest, a lot of the Americans don't really rate European fighters that much. This is our chance to go over there and prove them wrong.

"It's a big challenge for us. There aren't too many left for us in this country and this would be a test, a real step up.

"Needless to say chances like this don't come along very often but if we go over there and win it will open a lot of doors."

The Evans twins, who train under the guidance of Chris Bladon at the Adrenaline Gym in Brownhills, both possess an impressive pedigree.

Owen is a five-time British champion in the K-1 division, possesses a European title belt and is currently ranked the No.1 fighter in the UK at 65kg.

Zac, meanwhile, is a seven-time world champion and remains unbeaten after 25 fights, while it was his convincing win over American Elvis Camejo last year which prompted Campbell to issue his invitation across the pond.

Owen is scheduled to take on Sean Larkin, while Zac faces Danny Orchart, both WRL world title bouts.

Cannock twins Zac, left, and Owen Evans are looking for sponsorship to help them get to New York

The only issue which remains is finding the money to make the trip. Owen and Zac might have a reputation for being high-flyers in the ring, yet outside it they have their feet firmly on the ground, fitting gym work around their training as a plumber and electrician respectively.

Proud mum Alison, whose own love of boxing helped inspire her sons' kickboxing careers, has set up a JustGiving page to help fund the cost of the trip, estimated to be around £600 each. She explained: "This isn't the kind of trip you can afford to make on an apprentice wage.

"Both of them work so hard, fitting in training around their work. You have to be so dedicated if you want to be successful in this sport.

"This is their chance to go and show the Americans who is best and we don't want them to miss out."

To support the appeal visit justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alison-evans-1

Craddock bows out at second stage

CANNOCK thrower Mark Craddock bowed out of the 'FA Cup of Darts' at the second round stage.

Craddock, who qualified for the UK Open at Butlin's, Minehead, through Riley's sports bar, Wolverhampton, was beaten by Ryan Miekle.

Riley's qualifiers made up 32 wildcards joining the 96 professionals for the three-day tournament. Four qualified from the chain's Wolverhampton venue.

Of the others, John Morris, of Wolverhampton, bowed out in the opening round to former world champion John Part, while Dudley's Liam Kelly also fell at the first hurdle, 6-0 to Liam Humphries, who then knocked out Wednesfield's Wayne Jones.

Andrew Pullen also made the second round before being beaten by Nathan Aspinall.

Black Country players Jamie Hughes and Jason Lowe fared best of the local players.

Lowe, of Cradley Heath, had enjoyed an excellent qualifying campaign in Wigan two weeks ago, meaning he faced John Scott in round two. He then lost out to Chris Dobey in the last 32.

Tipton ace Jamie Hughes averaged 95 in his first PDC major tournament since switching from the BDO.

'Yozza' pushed Ian White, but the Stoke thrower squeezed through to reach the last 16.

'Flying Scotsman' Gary Anderson won the tournament, beating Australian Corey Cadby in Sunday's final.

Date agreed for Pitmen's cup tie

HEDNESFORD TOWN'S Staffordshire Senior Cup semi-final against Stoke City will take place at Keys Park on Tuesday, April 10, kick off 7.45pm.

The Pitmen will welcome an under-23 side from the Potters, who are reigning champions and 19-times winners of the competition. Hednesford have won the cup three times, most recently in 2013.

Hednesford have progressed thanks to victories over Lichfield City and Newcastle Town, while Stoke have overcome Chasetown and Leek Town.

Hednesford visit Marine on Saturday, Chasetown are at Sheffield, while Heath Hayes entertain Atherstone.

★★★

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